The National Future Farmer

Owned and Published by the Future Farmers of America

A State FFA Sweetheart receives a Crown

August-September, 1956

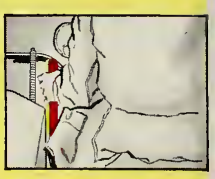
Save more corn...husk faster and cleaner with *Complete On-The-Go Control*

McCormick® 2-ME Picker

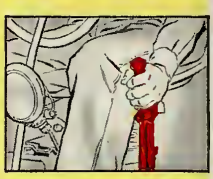
Team a McCormick 2-ME picker with a Farmall® 300 or 400 tractor equipped with TA, for non-stop husking that puts you days and bushels ahead! You can change picking speed on-the-go . . . pull through tough spots without shifting down . . . go as slowly as 1½ mph. And *now*, new snapping roll adjustment, available as optional equipment, gives you on-the-go control of roll spacing to match varied crop conditions. New bank lubrication system cuts servicing time in half. New auxiliary cleaning fan assures cleaner corn when husks are dry. The McCormick 2-ME gives you big-capacity snapping and husking rolls, shelled corn saver, and many other corn-saving advantages. In all conditions, the 2-ME, with on-the-go control, picks faster, husks cleaner, assures safer operation.

- New snapping roll adjustment
- New auxiliary cleaning fan
- New bank lubrication system

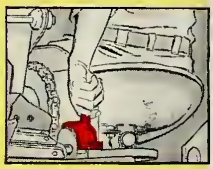
Here's why you pick *non-stop!*



Space snapping rolls on-the-go for no-slug feeding of tall, heavy stalks . . . positive snapping of big or small, damp or dry ears ot faster picking speeds.



Change picking speed on-the-go, with Farmall Torque Amplifier to save down corn. Two speeds in each work gear match picker travel to any field or crop condition.



Control husking on-the-go by varying pressure of ear forwarders which hold ears to husk-grabbing rubber-on-steel rolls. There's a big 4-roll husking bed for each corn row.

Steer front divider right or left, with tractor front wheels, to funnel in tangled corn or to turn sharply into corn rows without breaking down stalks. Raise and lower front divider and gatherers with handy Hydra-Touch® hydraulic control.

Choose from 5 McCormick pickers—one or two-row mounted pickers (heavy or regular-duty) or one or two-row pull-types! Get the size and type that exactly fits your acreage and your tractor power. Use the IH Income Purchase Plan—pay as you farm!

® SEE YOUR

INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER DEALER

International Harvester products pay for themselves in use—McCormick Farm Equipment and Farmall Tractors . . . Motor Trucks . . . Crawler and Utility Tractors and Power Units—General Office, Chicago 1, Illinois.

Send for FREE Catalog

International Harvester Company
P. O. Box 7333, Dept. NFF-8, Chicago 80, Ill.

Please send McCormick corn picker catalog checked:

- ☐ 2-ME two-row mounted
- ☐ No. 2-PR two-raw pull-type
- ☐ 34 HM-20 twa-raw mounted
- ☐ 2C-10 one-row mounted
- ☐ No. 1-PR one-row pull type

Name_____ ☐ Student

Address_____

Town_____ State_____

My IH dealer is_____

Choose the pick-up that's first in all 4... DODGE

1 **FIRST IN V-8 HORSEPOWER-** to-weight ratio . . . for extra zip, greater gas economy.

2 **FIRST IN CAB SIZE** . . . largest, most comfortable of them all! Full coil spring seats.

3 **FIRST IN PAY-LOAD CAPACITY** . . . built to haul up to 35% more for more profit per load.

4 **FIRST IN VALUE** . . . priced with the lowest—gives you more truck per dollar.

Test-drive DODGE before you decide...

You're taking a big chance when you "habit-buy" a new truck . . . that is, buy the same old make without checking all *Dodge* has to offer.

This time, take a long, careful look *before* you decide. See for yourself how much more Dodge gives you!

- **Greater gas economy.** Exclusive, short-stroke Power-Dome V-8 design gives you full power on *regular* gas . . . more miles per gallon.
- **Low engine maintenance.** Advanced Chrysler-engineered Dodge combustion-chamber design practically eliminates harmful carbon deposits, cuts upkeep costs to the bone.
- **Complete sheet metal protection.** All metal surfaces, hidden *unpainted* surfaces included, are specially treated to resist rust and corrosion. Cabs and bodies last longer.
- **Low prices.** Many Dodge models actually cost *less* than any other make.

You get *more truck* for your money in a Dodge. See your Dodge dealer and let him *prove* it!

DODGE TRUCKS WITH THE *FORWARD LOOK*

GET YOUR DODGE DEALER'S DEAL BEFORE YOU DECIDE!

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You might be a lucky winner! See page 41 for rules and entry blank in your own fishing contest!

The National
Future Farmer
Owned and Published by the Future Farmers of America

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER, 1956 • Vol. 4, No. 5

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Our Cover—*Photo by Bob Taylor, Arizona.*

Oh for the life of a national officer of the FFA! In this case, it happens to be Jay Wright, Pacific region vice president ('55) from Alamo, Nevada, who is crowning a state FFA sweetheart. The pretty miss is Carol Wiehl, 16, from Gilbert, Arizona, Sweetheart of the Arizona FFA Association. The crowning took place at the annual dance held during the State FFA Leadership Conference and Convention in Prescott. As you can see, fellows, being a national officer has its lighter moments!

THE NATIONAL FUTURE FARMER is published bimonthly by the Future Farmers of America, Inc., at 810 Rhode Island Avenue, N. E., Washington, D. C. Entered as second-class matter at the post office at Washington,D. C. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 34.40(c).
Single subscription is 50c per year in U. S. and possessions. Foreign subscriptions $1.00 per year. Single copies, 10c in U. S.
CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Send both old and new addresses to Editorial Offices, THE NATIONAL FUTURE FARMER, Box 29, Alexandria, Virginia.

The life line of hybrid corn leads from nubbins to nitrogen!

Copper-colored squaws, wielding a sharp stick and a clamshell or obsidian hoe, grew colorful nubbins of Indian corn like those above.

Centuries of selection by red man and white man alike developed from these the typical dent corn varieties that covered the Corn belt until 25 years ago. Today's high-yielding hybrids, now grown in every state, are produced from pure strains of corn that look little better than these varicolored nubbins.

Our modern hybrid varieties extract more plant food from the soil than the old open-pollinated corn ever could. More phosphorus, more potash, and especially more nitrogen go into the making of high yields of corn hybrids. More of these plant nutrients are carried off every acre each year in every load of corn.

More fertilizer is essential to maintain or improve these big, profitable yields. It takes about 160 pounds of nitrogen per acre to grow a 100-bushel crop. With many farmers producing 150 to 200 bushels per acre, the need for nitrogen is great.

Nitrogen fertilizers, like corn, have been improved tremendously in recent years. High-nitrogen balanced fertilizers and concentrated solid and liquid forms of straight nitrogen fertilizers are growing more popular each year.

Nitrogen Division, long-time leading supplier of nitrogen to the fertilizer industry, is increasing its production facilities to supply more new, low-cost, easy-to-use forms of nitrogen. This year, see your fertilizer dealer for nitrogen fertilizers that provide an easier way to make corn pay.

Arcadian®

PRODUCTS FOR PROFITABLE FARMING

Nitrogen Solutions
Pressure and Non-pressure Types

Urea 45 Fertilizer
45% Nitrogen Pellets

A-N-L® Nitrogen Fertilizer
Pelleted

12-12-12 Fertilizer
Granular

Sulphate of Ammonia
Dry Crystalline

American Nitrate of Soda
Improved Granular

Anhydrous Ammonia

NITROGEN DIVISION Allied Chemical & Dye Corporation
New York 6, N. Y. • Indianapolis 20, Ind. • Ironton, Ohio • Omaha 7, Neb.
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NITROGEN DIVISION ALLIED CHEMICAL

NEW! PROTO's "Rotahead"
Free Wheeling Socket Hinge Handle

Every Tool User Will Want One!

Revolutionary in design, the patented "Rotahead" socket handle takes the place of a ½" drive reversible ratchet and conventional hinge handle. Just press the head downward and the handle rotates freely. Release pressure and the head engages the drive plug. The strong free-wheeling mechanism permits a new bite every 12 degrees. The compact head gets into tight places. And the 16" length provides high leverage. Buy this sensational time saver at your PROTO dealer's. Send 10¢ for catalog of entire line to

PROTO TOOLS
2207 Santa Fe Ave.,
Los Angeles 54, Calif.

Eastern Factory – Jamestown, N.Y.
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ALSO NEW!

Patented Spark Plug Holding Sockets with 13/16" Openings. Cutaway view. Rubber insert holds plug securely, speeds work, prevents burning of fingers. No. 5026HP—⅜" drive. No. 5326HP—½" drive.

Whitworth 3/16-⅜ Opening Sockets. For repair of foreign cars and motorcycles. Nos. 5206W-5212W—⅜" drive.

Double Hex Sockets. For elastic stop nuts. Nos. 4708T-4714T—(¼"-7/16" openings)—¼" drive. Nos. 5210-5228—(5/16"-⅜" openings)—⅜" drive.

5683

PROTO TOOLS
PROTO means PROfessional TOols

A Fellow Told Me...

Here's another member of *The National FUTURE FARMER* staff you might like to know. His name is Cedric Lafley, and he joined the staff of the magazine as associate editor on April 1, 1956. Cedric was born in Franklin County, Vermont, and was a member of the FFA at Enosburg Falls High School. In 1934 he received the Vermont State Farmer degree, and was elected state treasurer. After graduating from the University of Vermont in 1940, Cedric taught vo-ag, and at the outbreak of World War II joined the famous First Infantry Division, spending 3½ years in the European theatre. His Army service carried him through 444 days of actual combat, 8 campaigns, and three D-day invasions! He was the officer who delivered the ultimatum to the German city of Aachen, the first German city under siege after the invasion of Normandy, France. Cedric has been decorated with the Silver and Bronze Stars as well as the Purple Heart.

Cedric A. Lafley
Associate Editor

After leaving the Army he taught vo-ag at Brandon, Vermont, and continued studying to receive his Master of Education degree in 1950. He has served as president of both the Vermont Ag Teachers' Association and the Vermont Vocational Association. Before joining *The National FUTURE FARMER*, Cedric was Assistant State Supervisor of Agricultural Education in Vermont. He also served as Supervisor of the Farm Training Program for Veterans, Executive Secretary of the Vermont FFA Association, and editor of the *Vermont Ag Teachers' Journal*. In keeping with his work, he married a farmer's daughter, and has three sons and a young daughter. Wow! He's quite a guy.

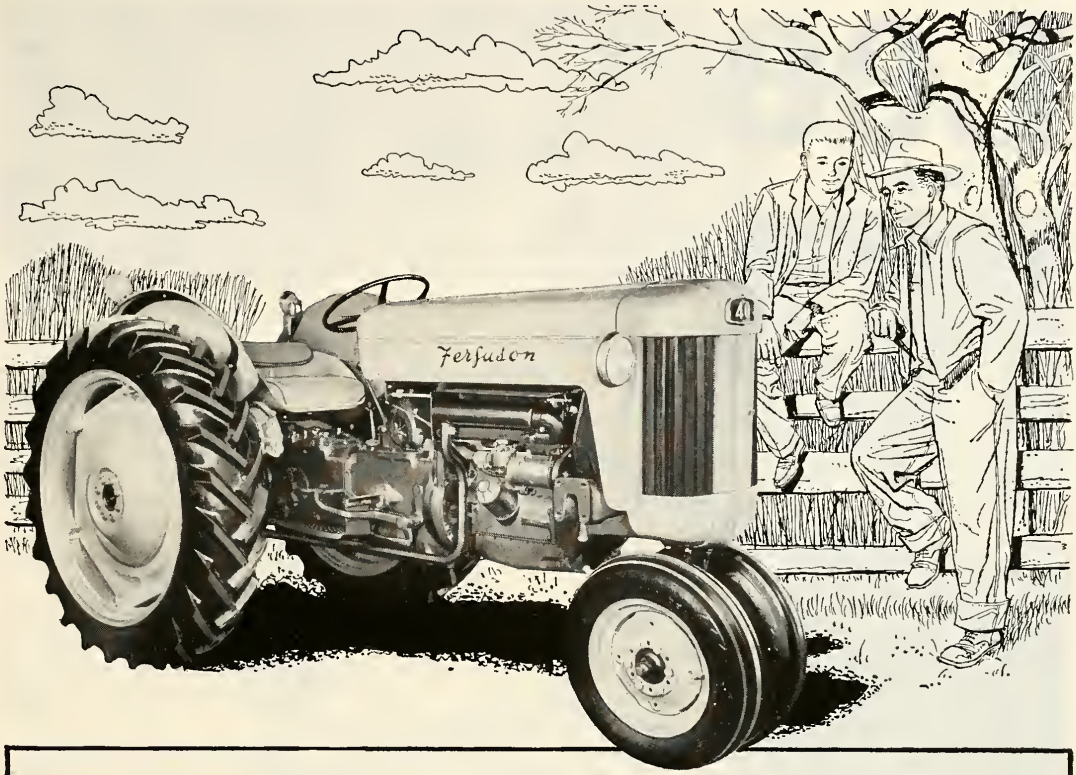
The cat is out of the bag. Word is getting around that some of the fellows in South Dakota are planning to have the neatest dressed group at the National FFA Convention in Kansas City October 15-18.

Sylvan Vigness, advisor of the Flandreau, South Dakota, Chapter, was in the magazine office the latter part of June, but he was mum on their plans. However, C. R. Hall, advisor of South Dakota's Watertown Chapter is quoted as saying, "A person dressed in appropriate clothes can feel proud of himself and his organization. Clothes are worn for the occasion and I believe that the National FFA Convention is an occasion for dressing our best." (*We've heard that a couple of other states are going to try to outshine S. D.*)

Speaking of the National Convention, there were about 12,000 in attendance last year . . . and each year the number grows. With that many young fellows together, some guys—who maybe have no particular responsibilities at the Convention—get a little rowdy . . . and the FFA gets a black eye. We don't want that . . . but what's your idea about how to handle it?

Some have said that boy attendance should be limited to national officers, official delegates, American Farmer Degree candidates, award winners, and one delegate from each chapter. What do you think of this idea? If you don't like it, how about suggesting something else? Let me hear from you real soon. Just mail it to *Hank*, Box 29, Alexandria, Virginia. *As ever,*

Hank



Farming is exciting, too, son!

"Sure, you'll do a stint in the armed services . . . perhaps see more of the world than I have. It's an exciting prospect.

"Farming is exciting, too, son. Right now farming methods, farm equipment and agricultural technology are developing so fast you could call it a revolution. A *good* revolution, because it's helping farmers to farm easier, surer and more economically than ever before.

"Take this Ferguson Tractor, for instance. It revolutionized the idea of what a tractor should be. Instead of just pulling my plow, it weds it to the Ferguson System so that I have complete control over draft, working depth, position, raising and lowering . . . and lots of other things, too. And, now, I can also have power steering and power spaced wheels.

"With your farm background, son, and with all the wonderful changes that industry and science are bringing about, farming will be even more exciting when you are through with your armed forces training.

"Take my advice, stick with your farm youth organization. Learn all you can. Some day you'll prize the independence you'll have earned." *Ferguson*, Racine, Wisconsin.

Ferguson

Lee
RIDERS

Copyright 1956

RANCH-BORN ...RODEO-BRED

Free for action — snugly comfortable Lee Riders! Worn by champion Rodeo idols, like Casey Tibbs, 1955 World's All-Around Champion Cowboy. Lee Riders are figure-flattering with the long, lean look the school crowd likes. Genuine authentic Western jeans, ranch-born, rodeo-bred, they're rugged as rope with 20 Tough-Tailored extras. Sanforized. Tailored sizes for boys and girls of all ages. Lee Riders must wear longer, look better, fit better than any you've ever worn or your money back or a NEW GARMENT FREE!

THE H. D. LEE CO., INC., KANSAS CITY, MO.

Tucson, Arizona

I am writing this letter concerning the subscription to *The National FUTURE FARMER* which I made in September of 1954. I have received only two copies since then, for my 5-yr. subscription. My address then was 2915 N. Stone Ave., but having moved it is now 114 W. Glenn St. I enjoy reading this magazine very much and so therefore would like to receive it or else get my money back.

I have always had faith in what the FFA did until now. Thank you very much and I hope I can receive this most enjoyable magazine again.

Larry Eilers

Just a friendly reminder to all of our subscribers: When you move please forward both your new and old addresses to the editorial offices of *The National FUTURE FARMER*. If not, you also may fail to receive copies of your magazine. Prompt change of address notices are the only way we can assure you of receiving every issue of your national FFA magazine, so c'mon, help us out!—ED

Eubank, Kentucky

On behalf of the Eubank Chapter of Future Farmers of America, I wish to thank you for the fine work you are doing by publishing *The National FUTURE FARMER* magazine. Every issue you publish many good tips on successful farming. We hope that this will cause more farmers to make success in the future.

I wish to thank you for publishing *The National FUTURE FARMER* every two months. I hope, along with my fellow students, that this magazine will be published monthly in the near future.

Kenneth Carter

Corvallis, Montana

Will you please send me the address of Billy Sharpe or the plans on how to build a post hole digger for a tractor, which was pictured on page 16 of *The National FUTURE FARMER* (June-July issue). Thank you.

Gerald Muller

Peck, Michigan

I am a member of the Peck Chapter of the FFA and I have been taking agriculture for two years now. *The National FUTURE FARMER* magazine is so inspiring and encouraging that every time I get the magazine I get so encouraged to take agriculture for the next two high school years that I need, because it offers so many opportunities for young boys to become successful in later life in the field of farming.

I enjoy reading the jokes and many interesting articles being published in the magazine from time to time. I especially enjoyed reading the story of the two boys that came out in the article "Which Road?" in the last April-May issue.

I sincerely believe, also the boys in my Chapter, that you are doing a mighty fine job in publishing your magazine. We are hoping that in the near future you will be able to publish a monthly magazine, which we all will enjoy reading very much.

Francisco Longoria

Salem, Virginia

I am President of the Andrew Lewis FFA Chapter and have been receiving your magazine for the past three years. I am very glad we will be receiving six issues this year, but I wish it was going to be twelve issues.

In your April-May issue I was very interested in the Article "Which Road?" and I am sure many other boys can use this article to help them decide whether or not to go to college as I have.

Danny Wertz

Spruce Creek, Pennsylvania

I have received my first copy of *The National FUTURE FARMER* magazine and have enjoyed reading it very much. I don't like just a portion of the magazine but the whole variety of articles, advertisements, and of course, the jokes! I am a member of the Warriors Mark FFA, Warriors Mark, Pa. All the members in the Chapter receive the magazine and think it is great. Keep up the good work.

Sam Hayes, Jr.

How big should a farmer's toolbox be?

Ordinarily a look into a farmer's toolbox would find an assortment of hand tools, some nuts and bolts, even an electric drill. Close by might be other hand and power tools too big for his toolbox. But there's another set of farm "tools" that has yet to be found in any farmer's toolbox. And it belongs. *The livestock buildings.*

Compared to mechanization of field work, mechanization in and around farm buildings is in its infancy. Most farmers who have abandoned the pitchfork for modern harvesting equipment will quickly admit to the back-breaking inefficiency of storing and feeding tons of harvested materials.

The new grassland trend is to help reduce labor needs by using stock shelters as farm tools. Engineers and farmers are developing buildings for specific purposes. And they can be as flexible as an interchangeable screwdriver handle. Best of all they keep farm operations running smoothly and efficiently.

The use of machines and gravity for easy handling of grains and forages depends on building design. Self-feeding arrangements in both buildings and adjacent feedlots can be streamlined with the right tools —the correct buildings—to work with.

New Holland, in turn, continues to develop and build new and improved grassland machines that help ease the work in and around farm buildings—advanced machines like the Model 300 Spreader with the cross-conveyor attachment for automatic filling of horizontal trench or bunker silos and feed bunks.

The New Holland Machine Co., New Holland, Pa.

NEW HOLLAND

"First in Grassland Farming"

New! A Tractor Scoop With Real BITE

Landscapes and levels
Cleans feedlots
Removes snow
Lifts and carries
Builds and maintains:
Roads and lanes
Terraces
Ditches
Trench Silos
Farm Ponds

Here's a brand new farm tractor implement that really "digs in" to handle earth-moving jobs of many kinds. Rear-mounted on the Allis-Chalmers WD or WD-45 Tractor, it digs, loads, lifts, carries and dumps . . . performing a great variety of jobs that need doing on every farm.

Choose either forward or reversed bucket position, whichever is best for the job. Either way, the scoop is automatically set for quick entry and steady, uniform digging. Reversed, it's also a carrier . . . lifting and carrying feed, seed and other farm materials.

Bucket capacity, 13½ cu. ft. Width, 31 in. Ground clearance, 23 in. under bucket. Made of heavy welded steel plate, fitted with a high-carbon cutting edge.

SNAP-COUPLER hitch makes attaching minute-quick. TRACTION BOOSTER system gives you extra traction in hard digging or in loose soils.

See your dealer or write for free folder, "New Allis-Chalmers Scoop for WD and WD-45 Tractors."

ALLIS-CHALMERS, FARM EQUIPMENT DIVISION, MILWAUKEE 1, WISCONSIN

ALLIS-CHALMERS

Reversed, the Allis-Chalmers Scoop works the year 'round as a mover of heavy or bulky materials such as sand, ashes, feed, and plant food.

SNAP-COUPLER and TRACTION BOOSTER are Allis-Chalmers trademarks.

Reader Roundup

Detroit, Michigan

We have just received the 1956 June-July issue of *The National FUTURE FARMER*. Our attention was drawn to Page 18 showing the picture of the President of the Standard Oil Company. The caption beside the picture shows the name of Mr. A. W. Peake.

Actually the picture is of Mr. F. O. Prior, who succeeded Mr. Peake as President on May 5, 1955. We thought perhaps you would be interested in our observation.

F. R. Schultz
Public Relations Rep.

Our apologies to both Mr. Prior, and Mr. Peake!—ED

Pauls Valley, Oklahoma

I received *The National FUTURE FARMER* magazine. I like it very much. I hope you can get it published every month. I read my magazine from front to back and when I get ready to build something I always look in it for ideas. It really helps me in all my FFA work. I hope you can keep up the good work that you put in this magazine.

Earl Williams

Kokomo, Indiana

I have received my first issue of *The National FUTURE FARMER* magazine and I like it very much. Hope you can get it a monthly. I like the article about the National Convention in the February-March issue, because it shows us boys who can't get down there what goes on. I was a delegate to the State Convention last year and I was just chosen again this year to go again. I like to go to the Conventions very much, because you learn a lot by experience and I like it that way.

I am a member and President of the Clay Township Chapter in Miami County, Indiana. We have 16 members in our Chapter this year and we have

Reader Roundup

bought a Landrace gilt for $100 to start a gilt chain. We have also sold around 48 cans of rat poison and $230 of Vitality seeds, already this year.

I can think of a hundred things to write you about but I don't want to make this letter too long so I will write some jokes on another paper and hope you can use them.

Ronald Klein

St. Catherine, Missouri

I enrolled in vo-ag and joined the Brookfield Chapter of the FFA last fall. I attended our state convention this spring, tried out for our national band and am proud to say that I have been nominated. Please send me an FFA supply Catalog.

I have received two copies of *The National FUTURE FARMER*, and after I get it away from my family read it from cover to cover. I think the cover pictures are very appropriate and well chosen. Keep up the good work.

Russel R. Correll

Inman, Kansas

I am an FFA member of the Buhler Chapter of Buhler High School. I will be in my third year as a vo-ag student. Your magazine is wonderful. This year I was awarded an FFA jacket for high point men in the "pest control" of our school.

Jackie Siemens

Blair, Oklahoma

I enjoy every issue of *The National FUTURE FARMER*. It is a fine magazine, as it helps promote a desire for better farming throughout the United States and abroad. I like the magazine and would like to thank all the people who help make it possible. Keep up the good work.

Joe Venable

Colton, Washington

I am a member of the Colton FFA Chapter and a junior this year. I am vice-president of our Chapter. Though I have only received three issues of *The National FUTURE FARMER* I consider it a very fine magazine and enjoy reading it. A large percentage of our Chapter subscribe to it. Thanks again for a truly great magazine of a great organization.

Larry Hood

Wellston, Ohio

I am a charter member of the Wilton Chapter of the FFA. I like *The National FUTURE FARMER* very much and wish it came monthly, and so do all the other members. I would like to see a farm machinery and equipment division in the magazine.

James Sorrell

TRACTOR EASY...with REAL DIGGING Power

Opens drainage ditches
Cleans feedlots
Removes snow
Backfills and levels
Builds and maintains:
Driveways and roads
Terraces
Irrigation ditches and borders

Low-cost earth moving and barnyard cleaning — that's what every owner of an Allis-Chalmers WD or WD-45 Tractor gets with this new 6-ft., tractor-mounted scraper. And it's hitched or unhitched quickly with the tractor's SNAP-COUPLER hitch.

The scraper is easily and quickly adjustable 5 ways (without use of a wrench): 1. Blade can be angled into 13 positions. 2. Pitch of blade is adjustable. 3. Blade can be tilted, to either side. 4. Blade is reversible for bulldozing and backfilling. 5. Scraper is hydraulically lifted or lowered.

Scraper has curved, 14-in. high moldboard with replaceable cutting edge. Moldboard can be extended to 9 ft. with two 1½-ft. extensions. End plate attachments are also available to fit either extensions or regular 6-ft. blade.

Ask your Allis-Chalmers dealer about this new scraper or write for free folder, "Allis-Chalmers Scraper — Year 'Round Implement of Many Uses."

ALLIS-CHALMERS, FARM EQUIPMENT DIVISION, MILWAUKEE 1, WISCONSIN

ALLIS-CHALMERS

The Allis-Chalmers Scraper is an all-season tool, handy for feedlot cleaning and snow removal. Shown here with end plate attachments.

SNAP-COUPLER is an Allis-Chalmers trademark.

PICKERS OF THE CHAMPIONS

John Dakin, National 1-row Champion 1955
Missouri 1-row Champion 1955

H. Lyons,
Canadian 1-row Champion 1955

E. A. White,
Canadian 2-row Champion 1955

Crib more corn with a NEW IDEA picker

Here are four reasons why you can't afford not to own a New Idea picker

Bill Friessen, South Dakota
1-row Champion 1952, 1953, 1955
National 1-row Champion 1953

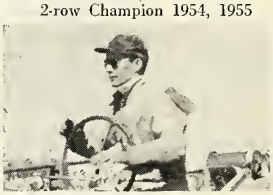
Herb Ranschau, South Dakota
2-row Champion 1954, 1955

1. Unmatched contest leadership since 1950. NEW IDEA pickers have won 43 Championships and Reserve Championships in 44 state, national, and Canadian contests since 1950. This record is unmatched by any other make of corn picker.

2. 17% less corn loss. The average corn loss of 25 NEW IDEA pickers in 1955 picking contests was actually 17% less than the average corn loss of 73 competing machines.

3. Pickers of the Champions in 1955. NEW IDEA corn pickers won more state and national championships in 1955 picking contests than any other make.

4. First choice of farmers. More farmers use NEW IDEA pickers than use any other make.



Elvin Denman, Nebraska
1-row Champion 1954, 1955

Art Niedfelt, Nebraska
2-row Champion 1955

Want more corn from the field? Shift to New Idea this year. See your New Idea dealer soon and get all the facts.

Best idea yet . . . get a New Idea

NEW IDEA Farm Equipment Co.,
Division AVCO Distributing Corp.,
Dept. 1913, Coldwater, Ohio

Chet Long, Illinois 1-row Champion
1952, 1953, 1954, 1955

Farm-City Week

FARM-CITY WEEK will be observed from November 16-22. This strikes us as being a fitting occasion. What could be better than a week set aside for you to get better acquainted with your city cousins.

This is just what Farm-City Week is —a week-long series of events aimed at bringing about a better understanding between farm and city neighbors. FFA's own director of public relations and information, John Farrar, is one of the 73-man committee which is directing Farm-City Week activities on a national level.

Why is it so important that city people learn more about today's agriculture and its problems? One of the major reasons is this. Farmers are now a shrinking minority of Americans, representing only 13 percent of our people. That means that non-farmers, to an increasing degree, are deciding more and more of the vital rural issues because they outnumber us in state legislatures, in the Congress, and in the voting booth.

And this is where you can help. Probably no group is in a better position to tell the farmers' story than those who are actively engaged in the program of vocational agriculture.

Here are some suggestions for youth groups during Farm-City Week.

- Exchange of young people between city and farm for a week-end.
- Arrange visits and tours for FFA, rural Boy and Girl Scout troops.
- Arrange farm tours for city Boy and Girl Scout troops, Key Clubs, Junior Achievement, and other groups.
- Awards banquets for FFA, Boy and Girl Scouts, and similar organizations.
- Participate in fairs and festivals with exhibits.

WORN-OUT FARM LAND . . .

today's frontier!

Poor land farmed well can often show a farmer more profit than good land farmed poorly. That's why many young farmers find their new frontiers in the hill land, the sloughs and worn-out ground. They are proving that though good land may be expensive, a young man can still get started and show a fair profit on inexpensive, marginal land.

Glen Depencier, Kent Bridge, Ont., and his Cat D2 Tractor are shown breaking new land for corn ground. His Cat Tool Bar and bulldozer greatly increase the variety of jobs the D2 handles efficiently. He says, "The D2 has proven to me that it is the most efficient way to farm. We are realizing a considerable savings in fuel as well as getting increased effieiency."

HERE'S a tractor to match the dreams and ambitions of youth! With a CAT* Diesel Tractor no plan is too big or daring.

The acres shrink away. The hills flatten out. You are *truly* master of your land! You handle your ordinary farm jobs more effectively—plow, disk, level, cultivate, harvest—and never mind the weather or the soft spots.

You boost yields by equipping your Cat Diesel Tractor with a tool bar and tools to subsoil or chisel to deepen crop-root feeding zone, break hardpan, increase moisture storage.

Clear out that clump of trees that shades your crop land—just swing your Cat "Swing-Around" Tool Bar draft members to the front and attach the 'dozer. High spots where water runs off, low places where water stands—bring them to accurate grade. Build ponds for irrigation, livestock, pleasure. Beautify your farmstead. Handle custom work in your slack seasons. Soon you'll discover that there's hardly a farm power job you can't do *better* with a Cat Diesel Tractor!

Have your Caterpillar Dealer show your youth or young farmer group the Caterpillar land building films, "Power for Protection" and "What's in it for Me?"

CATERPILLAR TRACTOR CO., Peoria, Illinois, U.S.A.

CATERPILLAR*

*Caterpillar and Cat are Registered Trademarks of Caterpillar Tractor Co.

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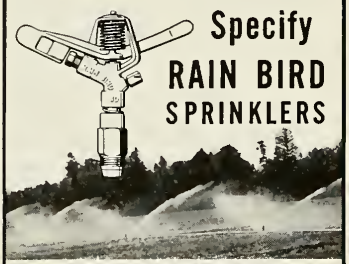

A sprinkler without the Rain Bird name just isn't the same, for only Rain Birds have all the advantages that have made them world famous.

There's a Rain Bird designed for your specific irrigation needs. Every Rain Bird sprinkler advancement has been field-tested... and in the field, Rain Birds never have been bested!

For top yields... top quality... specify Rain Bird! See your dealer today, or write for helpful literature.

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MAKE Extra MONEY FAST

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Show Rich New Cards never before offered. Amazing Value! Gets Easy Orders FAST! Pays up to 100% Cash Profit. Big Line. FREE Samples of 30 Gorgeous Christmas Cards with Name. 50 for $1.50 up. Stationery, Napkins, Kiddie Books, Games, Gift Items. Several $1.00 Boxes ON APPROVAL.

50 for $1.50
With Name FREE Samples

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Looking Ahead

SOIL BANK

When making farm plans for 1957 don't overlook the Soil Bank. If you have not already done so, check with your local County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee and see what the Soil Bank has to offer you. Your land may be too valuable to participate—but check and see for sure.

FEWER FARMERS

The farm population decreased about 3,000,000 between 1950 and 1955. This drop in farm population is a continuation of the longtime downward trend. By 1955 the number of farm residents was reduced to 13.5 percent of the total population. Some expect it to drop soon to 10 percent. This should mean increased opportunity for those who choose to remain on the farm.

INCREASED YIELDS

Contour plowing and planting have given increasingly better yields than plowing and planting up and down hill during a lengthy USDA study on steep slopes of central New York. A number of crops yielded up to a fifth more on contour by the 13th year. Loss of plant nutrients through erosion is a big reason for the poorer showing of the up-and-down plots, believes soil Conservationist G. R. Free.

NEW WEAPONS

Five new antibiotic weapons against plant diseases have proved effective against important fungus diseases of vegetables, report USDA scientists. The chemicals—oligomycin, anisomycin, mycostatin, griseofulvin, and Filipin—were tried with encouraging results against rust and anthracnose diseases of snap and dry beans and downy mildew and stem anthracnose of lima beans. The study will extend to other diseases.

FUTURE DAIRY FEEDS

For dairy feeds of the future, researchers see more high-energy feed from grass-legume crops, more urea, molasses, and fats. USDA dairy scientists are certain that high-energy feeds will top future menus that a dairyman selects for his herd. There will be adequate protein—but not an oversupply. Cows may also have greater access to such additives as urea, molasses, and tallow, as well as vitamins for relieving certain metabolic disorders. High-energy feeds will come from the same sources as they do now. But Agriculture Research Service nutritionist L. A. Moore foresees an increased proportion of such feed coming from grass-legume pasture crops rather than from grain supplements as at present.

MODERN BROILERS

Three-pound broilers have already been produced at the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station in less than eight weeks, and on less than five pounds of feed. Although the ration used is not commercially practical at this time, it gives a clear indication of things to come.

THINGS TO WATCH

Livestock: About the usual seasonal changes are in prospect for meat animals this summer and fall. However, reports indicate that seven percent less pigs will be farrowed this fall than last, pointing to higher hog prices the first half of 1957.

Poultry: Egg prices are likely to remain above 1955 levels until late summer or early fall. Broiler marketings this summer will stay far above a year earlier but demand is likely to pick up seasonally.

A 5c pencil is a money-saving tool

This man with a pencil is entering on a record-sheet the egg production from a special lot of hens—an egg-production test at the Moorman Research Farm. The record shows age of the birds, what they are fed, and their daily egg scores. It is just one of the many tests going on all the time at Moorman's; tests aimed at developing the best possible feeds for farm livestock—hogs, beef, dairy herds, poultry.

That priceless 5c pencil!—It's a "must" at Moorman's. Only by accurate records can we make certain that Moorman's Mintrates will do the best possible job for feeders—helping their animals and fowls to convert home-grown grains and roughage into meat, milk and eggs—faster, at lower cost.

Equally, it's a "must" for you—the most valuable tool on the farm. For only accurate records of feeding costs can point out to you which products are money-makers and which are not.

Moorman's*

Since 1885—71 years of Friendly Service

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—a business dedicated to helping farmers make better and more profitable use of the feeds they raise themselves.

The WIRTH Boys

By Robert G. Rupp
Associate Editor, THE FARMER

Since the loss of their father these teenage youths have farmed full time while attending school—and they do well at both jobs.

ALVIN AND RICHARD WIRTH are two young farmers who know what they want and how to get it. Their farming day starts at 5:30 in the morning during the winter, five o'clock in the summer. Richard heads for the barn and chores; Alvin for the field.

That's not so unusual until you learn that these are teen-agers, oldest in a fatherless family of seven children and dedicated to carrying a full high school program while farming 202 acres.

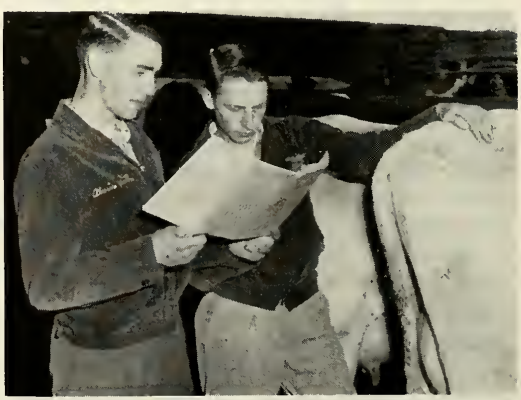
Their accomplishments are singularly remarkable—enough so that they were honored last May with the first dual Star Farmer award ever to be granted by the Minnesota FFA.

The story of Alvin and Richard Wirth began on a farm near Kindred, North Dakota. It shifted first to a country store near Enderlin, which their father took over when an accident forced him to quit farming. Later it moved to another country store at Buttzville.

The boys' love for farming didn't die during that time off the land. "There was nothing to do around town," says Alvin, looking back. "I was always on a nearby farm, helping with chores or picking up rocks." When they were 11 and 12 years old the two boys "talked their dad" into returning to the farm. This time it was in Minnesota near the town of Bertha in the dairy country. The family moved onto a 181-acre, rolling farm, which 12-year-old Alvin picked out on July 23, 1950.

Mr. Wirth bought the farm for $25,000, paying $4,000 down to be applied against long-term interest, with no money against the principal. This was to be paid off from 40 percent of the farm's yearly earnings, leaving the fam-

Their days begin at five o'clock in the morning. Richard goes to the barn and chores while Alvin heads for the field.



Farm accounts are important on the Wirth farm. Cows are ranked by production; if one drops too low, out she goes.

ily with 60 percent to live on and operate the farm.

Mr. Wirth became sick in 1951. Alvin put in half the crop that year with his father telling him what to do. The next summer he put in all the crop because Mr. Wirth, who by this time knew he had cancer, was unable to work. The family was left fatherless January 3, 1953.

Left were Mrs. Esther Wirth and a family of five boys and two girls. Alvin, the oldest, was 14. Richard was 13. A debt of $20,000 was still against the farm. After the family decided to stay on the farm, Alvin and Richard were faced with the job of operating the 202 acres (181 owned and 22 rented), not to mention getting an education, which both boys were determined to complete.

The youths had 18 milk cows from a herd which had been riddled with brucellosis shortly after they first bought the farm. They had 16 head of young stock, 225 laying hens, 16 hogs, a barely-serviceable line of farm machinery, plus a lot of determination!

First step in their program was a set of farm records, so farm accounts were started in January, 1953. They took an active part in Bertha Chapter FFA activities and tried every new practice which could make farming more profitable. Their agriculture instructor, Wally McKay, started them on a five-year rotation program of oats (nurse crop)—alfalfa-alfalfa-oats-corn on some fields, and a three-year rotation on others.

They weeded out poor producing cows and replaced them with better ones, or heifers. The worst machinery was traded for more useable items. They began making grass silage to increase their livestock feed supply. They took soil samples, analyzed them in vo-ag classes, and applied fertilizer as needed. Even though hard-pressed for cash they bought corn fertilizer early and stacked it in the granary.

Last fall they tore down an old barn and built a modern hog house with the salvaged lumber. "The only things bought were a few two-by-fours," says Charles Scott, present FFA advisor at Bertha. Their 32 x 20 foot hog house has a concrete floor, space to farrow eight sows, and is equipped with heat lamps and removable panels which may be hung on walls when pigs are big enough, changing the building from a farrowing house into a growing-fattening shed.

"We built a multiple-purpose house so we could start pigs earlier and get them on a better market," points out 18-year-old Alvin. "With the old barn we had to wait until warm weather before we could start pigs."

The two plan to put their dairy herd on small-plot rotational grazing, and a new practice now being picked up across the upper Midwest by progressive dairy men. The youths rank their cows by production each month. "A cow that slides down the scale too far goes out," says 17-year-old Richard. Calves are kept from only the top seven cows.

Even though they live in north-central Minnesota, Alvin and Richard are members of a southeastern Minnesota farm record association. Their records are analyzed each year by University of Minnesota farm economists, and even though their crops are on lighter, northern soils, they yield within 90 percent of those in southern Minnesota.

Dairy production, in the three years for which records have been analyzed, has gone from 274 pounds of butterfat in 1953 to 302 pounds in '54, to 317 pounds in '55. Dollar return above feed cost has increased from $96.70 per cow in '53 to $126.79 in '54, and to $132.70 in '55. They brought about that increase by "careful culling, artificial breeding, and better feeding."

Returns from poultry have held about steady—$3.85 per hen above feed cost in '53; $3.90 in '55. Hog profits have gone up slightly—$49.87 per sow above feed costs in '53, to $53.55 in 1955.

As unit returns went up, the farm debt went down. By the end of last year the boys had reduced the $20,000 debt of four years ago to $11,000—no slight feat in itself and especially remarkable when considered in the light of an eight-member family supported by two teen-age young men.

Despite this full farm load, schooling has not suffered. Both are B students. Both are active in school and Chapter affairs. Alvin played basketball during his junior and senior years, making the "A" team each year. Richard took part in the senior class play last spring. "Alvin does the chores for me while I'm practicing in return for my doing them for him when he played basketball," says Richard.

Alvin and Richard were delegates from their Chapter to this year's State FFA Convention. Alvin is treasurer of the Bertha Chapter now. Richard has been secretary, reporter, and sentinel, and is currently District II treasurer.

Both were on the first Minnesota FFA team ever to compete in the national land-judging contest, held in Oklahoma in the spring of 1955. Richard placed second, nationally, as an individual, and Alvin fourth. Their team placed second. The youths worked from five in the morning until midnight for a week to get farm work done before they left. While they were gone, Leo, 15, and Leona, 12, did their chores. Others in the family are Edith, 10, Roy, 9, and Allen, 5.

To fill out their days, both youths do custom work. They hire out for chores when neighbors are gone for a few days, and somehow find time for extra work during silo-filling season. Doing that helped them earn money to buy a flute for Leona, so she could play in the high school band.

"Socially, the Wirths manage to attend most school functions as well as church every Sunday," says Rev. Dean Williams, their pastor. "The family attends the little Evangelical United Brethern Church at nearby Wrightstown where both are ushers and sing in the choir. Richard was president of the Youth Fellowship last year, while his brother, Leo, was treasurer."

High school principal Joe Jerik says, "The attitude of Richard and Alvin Wirth makes teaching a rewarding field for all teachers who come in contact with them. These boys are not slaves to the farm, but they, and the rest of the family, work for each other so each can participate in activities of his or her choice."

This year, these two young farmers were selected, togethter, to receive Minnesota's highest FFA honor—that of State Star Farmer. Theirs was the first Star Farmer award ever made to two Future Farmers in the same year. Each was given $100 through joint donation by the National Future Farmers of America Foundation and special action of the Minnesota Association of Future Farmers.

Alvin will use his money to buy a tractor-mounted mower to replace the horse-drawn one. Richard will use his to buy a purebred Holstein heifer. Now that they have graduated from high school they will be able to do an even better job of farming. ◆◆◆

Somehow time is found for play. Alvin was on the school basketball team and Richard in the senior play this year.

Lynn Loosli inspects a calf born on his Idaho farm. This national officer owns 40 acres, helps father with his 160.

Loosli and part of his registered Hereford herd that are core of a livestock and potato farming program at Ashton.

In the FFA Spotlight

Meet Lynn Loosli, Pacific Region Star Farmer and Vice President who follows the tradition of his father's hard work to succeed.

A LANKY WESTERN YOUTH with a pleasing smile moved into the FFA spotlight twice this past year. He is Lynn Loosli of Ashton, Idaho, who is currently serving the organization as Pacific Region vice president, and last fall was named Star Farmer from his region at the National FFA Convention in Kansas City.

As you might expect of a fellow out west, Loosli has a herd of beef cattle forming the core of his farming operations. His cattle, used in combination with potatoes, has put him into farming on a sound basis, all before his 20th birthday.

Lynn owns a 40-acre farm in the Rocky Mountain section of eastern Idaho. He uses this farm for pasture land and rents an additional 25 acres for potatoes. His beef herd numbers 35 registered Hereford cows, some calves, and two herd bulls. Irrigation is used on 160 acres of the home farm because of the low rainfall in the area.

His father, Stanley Loosli, started renting land to Lynn in 1950 when the Future Farmer was enrolled as a freshman student of vocational agriculture at North Fremont High School. According to Mr. Loosli, Lynn was treated just like any other tenant. He paid exactly the same prices, and held exactly the same responsibilities as any other person renting land.

Lynn started with 10 acres of potatoes. A poor crop yield and low potato prices that first year held the income from his labor to $419. Not included was his labor on the rest of the farm to pay for using his dad's machinery. The next year's crop was some better and Lynn was able to buy seven registered Hereford heifers and plant eight acres of wheat to bring some diversification into his farming program.

Then in 1952, a combination of good crops and good prices put Lynn ahead. His 18 acres of certified seed potatoes that year yielded a labor income of $8,854. After that he was able to buy his 40-acre farm now valued at $4,500, and to invest in some needed machinery. He now owns nearly $5,000 worth of machinery and equipment, which includes most of the equipment needed to carry out his own operations.

Most of the work required on Lynn's farming program falls during the summer months, enabling him to attend Utah State Agricultural College where he is studying agricultural education. During the school term he spends most of his weekends at home, and Mr. Loosli looks after his livestock when he is away. Of course, Lynn has been away from home much of the time this year fulfilling his duties as regional vice president of the FFA, a job that requires considerable time and travel.

Lynn became a charter member of the North Fremont FFA Chapter in 1950 when the school first established a vocational agriculture department, with Seth Forsgren as instructor. Mr. Forsgren later left school to teach at Nampa, Idaho, and Leonard Hull, who replaced him at North Fairmont, is the current FFA advisor.

An active member of the FFA, Lynn served one year as secretary of his local Chapter, then was district secretary, and in 1953 was elected state FFA secretary. It was also in 1953 that he won a $100 award as Idaho's Star State Farmer, and was a member of the Fremont FFA livestock judging team that took high honors in two state contests. Then in the fall of 1955 he received a $500 award as Pacific Region Star Farmer and was elected to his office of national vice president.

All of Lynn's work has not been confined to the FFA. He has earned the rank of Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America organization. He was an officer of his freshman class, an honor student throughout high school, was a

member of the school's basketball, football, and track teams, and played in the school band for four years! At Utah State he represents the School of Agriculture in the Student Council and is secretary of Blue Key, a scholastic and service fraternity.

In addition to the training receiving from his vocational agriculture instructors, Lynn has had the experience of watching his father become one of the most successful farmers in the community. It wasn't always so easy. Thirty years ago Mr. Loosli started farming on rented land. Since then his holdings have grown to 1,000 acres. The family lives on the home farm in an attractive 10-room house surrounded by spacious lawns.

With this background, and the fact that Lynn already has a good start in farming, we're wondering if he will ever fill that vocational agriculture teacher's job he's preparing himself for! Our guess is that when he gets out of agricultural college he will head straight for that farm in the shadows of the Rockies, and use his agricultural knowledge on his own land. ◆◆◆

Lynn estimates this potato cellar will store 40 carloads. Vo-ag Instructor Leonard Hull is at left; Lynn on tractor.

Lanky Lynn stands waist-high in wheat field. Irrigation is used on 160 acres because of low rainfall in the area.

This family is proud of their Future Farmer. Left to right, sister, Lynn, mother, father, and Lynn's younger brother.

Photos by Takumi Kono

Farming a Volcano

Former President of the Hawaiian FFA Association, Masayuki Nii became a surprised owner of a volcano, but farming goes on!

By Hiroshi Ooka

DESPITE A VOLCANO smoldering a few yards away from his house, Masayuki Nii a former Future Farmer, is determined to continue farming as a way of life! The history-making volcano born on Nii's cucumber patch at Puna, Hawaii, drove him to the city for awhile . . . but now he's back to build his farming career anew.

After a series of earthquakes in the area, the ground in front of Masayuki's own home cracked, widened, and smoked. Within minutes, smoldering, red-hot lava bubbled up from the cracks and began flowing over his land. Not long after that a section of the cucumber patch collapsed entirely, forming a crater 80 feet wide and 150 feet or more deep. Lava hurtled into the air, later, piling into volcanic cones. A few months ago another section behind Masayuki's house collapsed, taking away part of the driveway leading to the garage.

Even with such unpredictable occurrences, Masayuki Nii is determined to remain a farmer. Though in danger he continued to work his land while the Puna eruption progressed farther south. He finally yielded to nature and moved away for awhile last year when thick sulphurous steam blanketed his farm, killing his crops and making work hazardous. The farm home, which is built along an old volcanic crack that probably erupted last in 1840, was also badly damaged by the fumes.

Masayuki evacuated his family of three to the capital city of Hilo, about

20 miles away, and entered the insurance business in May of last year. But being a farmer at heart he began farming his Puna farm again on a part-time basis in November. By December he had left the pressure of the insurance business and was working for a vegetable produce wholesaler in Hilo.

Nii had started farming in the area in 1939, acquiring 70 acres of virgin forest land through the assistance of the Farm Security Administration. His main crops over the years were anthurium flowers, bananas, citrus, and vegetable crops.

His school days and later years were filled with FFA activities and achievements. He attended Pahoa School and studied vocational agriculture for two years between 1931-33. He was an active member of the local FFA Chapter, and after leaving school, retained his active membership in the local Chapter for the next three years while working for a sugar company at Pahoa. He had an eight-acre sugar cane cultivation contract with the company which he worked after his regular day's work.

The State Farmer Degree was awarded to Masayuki in 1935 and he was elected Territorial president of the Hawaiian FFA Association. As president he represented Hawaii at the Ninth National Convention of the FFA in Kansas City, Missouri.

The industrious young farmer helped form an organization of former FFA members who were keenly interested in becoming established in farming. With the formation of the Hawaii Young Farmers Association, this group helped create the Puna Chapter in 1953. He was an active member until forced to move away from the community because of the eruptions.

In February of this year, Masayuki decided to go back to his farm, in spite of the threats of Pele, the Hawaiian volcano goddess who had destroyed his crops. He plans to clear more of his remaining 60 acres and go back into banana and anthurium production, with cucumbers and tomatoes as cash crops. Citrus, Macadamia nuts, and other tropical crops will be added as more virgin forest is cleared.

With talk of the Territory acquiring his property for a volcanic park, Masayuki has his relocation problems still pending. He has plans to move his house or rebuild it somewhere away from the farm and commute to work.

Every day as he goes to till the earth he loves so much, he sees the steaming fissures and cones that remind him of that hectic March 13, when Pele decided to play in his cucumber patch. She changed the course of his life for a few months, but in some strange way it only renewed his faith in farming as a way of life. ◆◆◆

A volcanic fountain has built a cone right in the middle of the road not more than 50 yards away from Masayuki Nii's home at Puna, Hawaii. Eruption made history as it was the first one ever to be observed and photographed in action.

In the forest a mile back of the Nii home, the most active volcanic fountain played for several weeks. Lava shot well over 150 feet in the air when this photo was taken. Trees in foreground have lost their leaves from heat, fumes.

E. J. Johnson, left, Program Specialist in Agricultural Education, visits spot with Nii where cucumbers were growing previous to the eruption. In the back a drop-pit was formed by earth fault and underground volcanic action. Note smoke.

It's Here! A one-stop farm grain dryer!

A REVOLUTIONARY new method of on-the-farm drying of small grains and shelled corn with unheated air has been developed by Stran-Steel Corporation.

It incorporates a specially designed multiple-fan drying system that fits any of the three Quonset grain storage buildings, regardless of length. The drying system is extremely flexible. As a building's length is increased, new fans and drying tunnels may be installed in the new addition without affecting the original fan installation.

Using 24-inch fans driven by 5-hp motors (maximum size), the drying system is specifically designed for rural lines in areas where only single-phase current is available.

Another important feature of this natural air drying unit is the built-in cooling system. The same fans that do the drying are reversed to cool the grain in storage. There are no extras to buy.

The design of this new drying system is based on research done at eight state agricultural experiment stations throughout the country with rice, shelled corn, oats and grain sorghum. Research was conducted under many different weather conditions and in the extreme humidity of the Gulf Coast area. The system was carefully tested for air delivery both in the laboratory and under actual farm conditions with various crops in principle grain growing areas of the country.

Thus any farmer, no matter where he lives, can buy the Quonset drying system with confidence.

The Quonset grain drying package is especially adapted for in-storage drying and cooling of shelled corn. After corn is field-shelled and elevated into the storage building, the Quonset system takes over. The grain is not handled from the time it is first elevated into the building for drying until it is sold or fed.

As recently as 1954, Ernest Ham, Saronville, Nebraska, harvested corn like anyone else. Double crews—five men and two corn pickers—began harvesting 500 acres of corn in the fall and sometimes didn't finish the job until spring. Ham then had to crib the corn over winter, spring and summer and pay 2¢ a bushel to have it shelled before A.S.C. called for delivery.

If, during the storage period, the corn took on moisture, Ham had to laboriously move it or the spoilage was his loss.

Last fall, however, things were different. There were no corn picking crews other than farmer Ham and a coworker. In little more than three months, these two men field-shelled 7500 bushels of corn with a combine, rapidly dried it with unheated air to 13½ percent moisture, and, in the same building, stored it under loan.

Ham's drying system reduced moisture content to A.S.C. specifications for less than one-half the cost of heated-air drying. His electricity bill was $75. That's 1¢ a bushel for drying, compared to between 3 and 4 cents a bushel that it costs to dry corn using heated air.

Here's how Ernest Ham harvested and dried his corn crop:

1. He field-shelled his corn with a combine in October, weeks before his neighbors put their corn pickers in the field.

2. Averaging 20 percent moisture, 7500 bushels of corn were elevated into the 32 x 36 Quonset. The three 24-inch fans were started, forcing air into three manifolds and nine drying tunnels.

3. In a few short weeks moisture content in the corn was reduced to 13½ percent and cooled for safe storage.

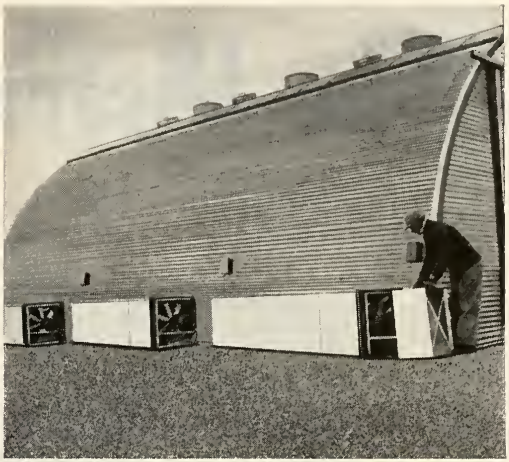
4. The corn was stored under A.S.C. loan in the same building in which it was dried. Both drying and cooling were done with the same fans and without moving the corn.

This Nebraska farmer's grain drying system met U.S.D.A. recommendations by delivering 3 cubic feet of air per minute per bushel for drying shelled corn at 20 percent moisture at the 10-foot level.

Corn—as well as small grain—may be piled from 6 to 12 feet deep for drying, depending on moisture content and rate of filling.

"The big thing that sold me on the new Quonset drying system was labor," Ham indicated. "I once trucked corn 12 miles to be dried. Now it's

These three 24-inch high-capacity fans dry with unheated air and are easily reversed to cool grain in storage.



When inoperative, fans and motors are weather protected by metal covers on Ernest Ham's Saronville, Nebraska, farm.

done right on my farm. Shelled corn is brought in from the field and elevated into the Quonset for drying. Whenever the corn heats or takes on moisture, I turn on the fans. It's that easy. The corn combine and picker-sheller are coming into their own around here and the new Quonset dryer is just the system we've needed to go with them. It takes only a few weeks for two men to pick, shell, dry and store my corn now. In 1954, it took months."

Ham jumped on the corn-drying bandwagon fast. He contracted with Quonset dealer John W. Wilkins of Geneva, Nebraska, for a building on October 22, 1955. Erection began on October 24. Eight days later the drying system had been installed and Ham elevated the first truckload of shelled corn into the Quonset.

"News like this travels fast," Ham said, gesturing toward his new Quonset building and drying system.

"Quonsets are pretty well known as *the* grain storage building in this area. They can't be beat. Now that I've seen the results, I'd say the same thing about the new grain drying system."

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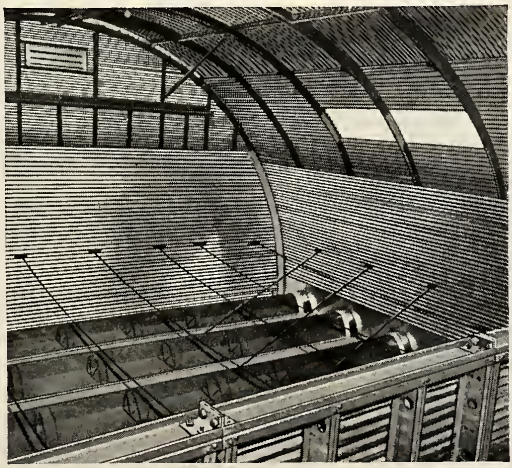


Interior view of Quonset building shows tunnel system and method of reinforcing walls to withstand grain pressure.

New grain drying system reduced moisture content of Ham's shelled corn from 20 to 13½ percent, safe for A.S.C. storage.

The District Contests

Though often overshadowed by state and national events, they spread practical training among large portion of FFA members.

By Stuart Chilton

Contestants from far and near attend the oldest state district contests held at Tarleton State College, Stephenville, Texas, that are possibly largest in country.

EACH YEAR, several thousand Future Farmers jump into their cars, school buses or whatever transportation is available and hit the roads. They're off to the district contests, an important part of the FFA program but one that is often overshadowed by state and national conventions.

Actually, these meetings are another step toward state and national honors for many Future Farmers whose work first began in their local chapters. For all who participate, these meetings on less than state levels offer training in livestock judging and similar events—training that will help make them better farmers and ranchers when they get that place of their own.

In paying tribute to these district meetings let's view the one held yearly at Tarleton State College at Stephenville, Texas. This is the oldest meeting of its kind in the state and possibly the largest held in the country. More than 1,700 FFA members, advisors, and friends from 68 counties and 170 high schools over the state participate in the event. Contestants come from as far north as Hardeman County on the Red River, and as far south as Kinney County on the Rio Grande. East-west boundaries are of nearly the same distance. This part of Texas represents three areas of the Texas Education Agency.

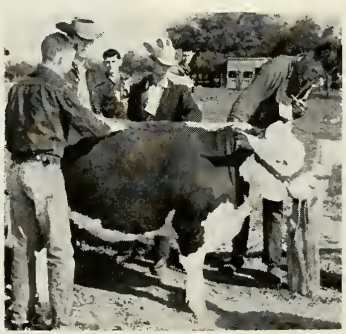
At the last event Future Farmers and their advisors began arriving on Friday, April 6. All available rooms in local hotels and motels were filled and more than 250 youths were housed in the College's two gymnasiums. To give you some idea of the number of Future Farmers participating, there were 178 teams in the livestock judging contest, 176 in dairy cattle judging, 120 in poultry, and 25 teams in dairy products. And of course, there were the alternates, advisors, and guests that came along.

The contests were staged by members of the Tarleton agriculture faculty with Tarleton students lending a hand. Judging events included livestock, dairy cattle, dairy products, poultry, and land judging, a new contest held this year for the first time.

And don't think it is an easy task to grade and tabulate the results of these events. A glance at the tabulating procedures would give one the impression that he was watching a big city accounting firm in action. At Tarleton a total of 22 adding machines were used to compute the results!

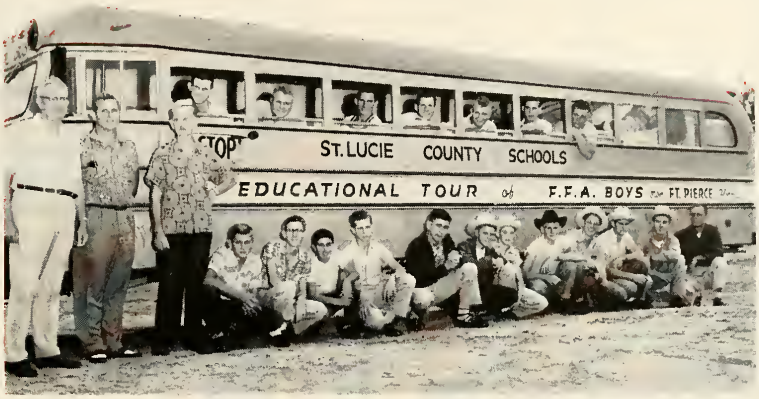
Maybe all district meetings are not of this size. Most are not overnight affairs and many have contests other than those named above but the training received by the member who attends them is just as important. Winning teams at such meetings are later seen in action again at state contests and conventions and some of them reach the top rung of the ladder at the national FFA contests in Waterloo and Kansas City. Here's hoping that you and your team are one of them! ◆◆◆

Team members examine poultry with care before making final decisions at annual district livestock judging meet.



Members of FFA judging teams evaluate the characteristics of a steer as part of their district judging competition.

Our Travels



By M. B. Jordan

WHEN SCHOOL BEGINS in the fall so does tour talk among Future Farmers at Fort Pierce, Florida. Each year our FFA Chapter chooses 20 of its most deserving members to go along on an educational tour that has become a tradition. Besides the nation's capital our travelling Future Farmers have visited "Grand Old Opry" in Nashville, Tennessee, Liberty Bell in Philadelphia, the Statute of Liberty in New York, and Niagara Falls on the Canadian border.

This is how Fort Pierce Chapter plans its annual tour. Only one out of three members can go, so they help to choose themselves. A point system is used to determine the grade in vocational agriculture every six weeks. At the end of the fifth grading period the 20 members having the highest grades are chosen, provided, that is, that they have (1) not failed any school subject for any six-week period; (2) had no disciplinary problem with any school official, and (3) that they have earned and deposited $25.00 each in the FFA thrift bank as part of the trip expenses. Experience has taught that it's best to let each boy assume part of the tour cost.

The $500 total paid by the touring members does not pay all costs for the 15 to 18 days' trip, of course! The school board furnishes its newest 66-passenger school bus without charge. The local board of county commissioners budgets $125 to be used for fuel or other cost. And for one of the most important duties—food—the school lunch room chef goes along as cook, without cost except for his expenses. A qualified bus driver, approved by the school, is engaged for $5.00 a day, plus his expenses.

Pre-planned menus help the cook prepare a master list of staple groceries, cured meats, eggs, and so forth. From this list an appeal for donations is made over the local radio station. Usually the list is completely filled in less than six hours!

There's much ado in the final stages before departure. The last two seats on each side of the bus are removed and a 50-pound icebox is installed in one corner, and on the other side we put a metal clothes rack. Then the bedroll and folding cot of each member are neatly stacked under the clothes rack, while cases of canned goods and other groceries are packed in the space left over. The rear door is left clear for re-icing the box and a portable bottle of gas and a gas stove are secured just inside the back door. With each boy travelling in dungarees and two members sharing one suitcase, individual baggage is kept to a minimum.

Each Future Farmer is limited to $2 a day for personal spending money. This tends to place everyone on an equal basis. Admission to attractions such as Mt. Vernon, Natural Bridge, and Monticello, is paid from the general treasury, as well as turnpike and bridge tolls and other miscellaneous costs. A few days before the trip parents are advised of the rules and regulations. They must give written permission to let the adviser administer such punishment as necessary if rules are violated. Using our method of selection only the best-behaved boys go along on the trip in the first place.

Twenty bags of our famous Indian River citrus, and 20 fine watermelons are added to the bus load before departure. These are for presentation to our hosts and other newly-made friends along the way.

Our last departure was quite an affair! Mothers, dads, sisters, and brothers came to bid farewell. Pictures were taken by a local press photographer and an on-the-spot broadcast by telephone described the departure to the radio audience. After we were seated on the bus a minister stepped aboard and offered a prayer that the trip might be safe, inspirational, and educational.

On Sunday each of us attends Sunday school and church. On several occasions the bus has stopped in front of a church just in time for services!

Each night a nightletter is sent collect to the radio station at home, describing the events of the day. At a prescribed time it is read over the air to parents and others interested. Many of the home folks said they felt they were making the trip, too. One member of our group is made the of-

ficial photographer and another keeps a travelogue.

Members may attend movies or go to the local drug store in the evening, but they must have the advisor's permission, and *never* go anywhere with more than two together. This discourages rowdyism and trouble which might arise from a large group. Wolf calls or whistles at girls are strictly banned. Each of us is expected to be a self-appointed ambassador of our city, high school, and FFA Chapter. Only once has it been necessary to administer punishment for broken rules. Two members were given their choice of a bus ticket home or appropriate punishment. They chose the latter. Other small infractions result in KP duty and camp restrictions in the evening.

About four in the afternoon we begin looking for some medium sized or small city where the school principal is asked for permission to use the gymnasium for our army cots. Here we also have bath and toilet facilities. In large cities too much red-tape is encountered in contacting proper officials. In our experience of using some 40 school gyms we have been refused only once.

Cooking equipment is unloaded first and the chef gets the big meal of the day ready on the grounds near the gym. Meanwhile sleeping quarters are arranged inside. After the evening meal we usually have visitors from the town who are curious about our gypsy trip. We discuss school experiences and community differences. Curfew is 10:45 p. m. At six in the morning the chef calls breakfast—a hearty one of ham, eggs, toast, and coffee, or hotcakes and bacon. We're on the way again early.

Two members are trained to load the bus with the assistance of other Future Farmers. Everything must be packed in an orderly fashion due to the limited space. One-third of the crew, which rotates, "polices" the gymnasium and yard to be sure they're left clean . . . sometimes much better than was found!

While en route this routine is followed each day. Often times in the large cities members are given meal allowance money. Health is an important factor on the trip. We carry trip or camp insurance on each member.

These tours are made at a cost of less than two cents per mile to the FFA member, including spending money. And are they worth it? After nearly 25 years of teaching vocational agriculture I'll confess they have been among the easiest major projects. Besides the enjoyment of the tours they have been gratifying to the Chapter for our officials to get complimentary letters from officials who have been our hosts. We've learned it pays to be good ambassadors! ◆◆◆

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'Stilbosol' helps your market cattle make bigger, faster gains with less total feed cost. But 'Stilbosol' is not a nutrient. In fact, by speeding up gains, *it puts an extra burden on the ration* to furnish each steer or market heifer with all the essential elements the animal needs to build meat and bone properly. And the ration must supply it *fast enough* to keep up with the faster growth.

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1. **Good supplements to help guarantee the extra gains 'Stilbosol' is capable of producing.**
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If you are not yet using 'Stilbosol'-fortified supplements, talk it over with your feed supplier. He can show you the advantages of feeding 'Stilbosol' to get more beef at less cost.

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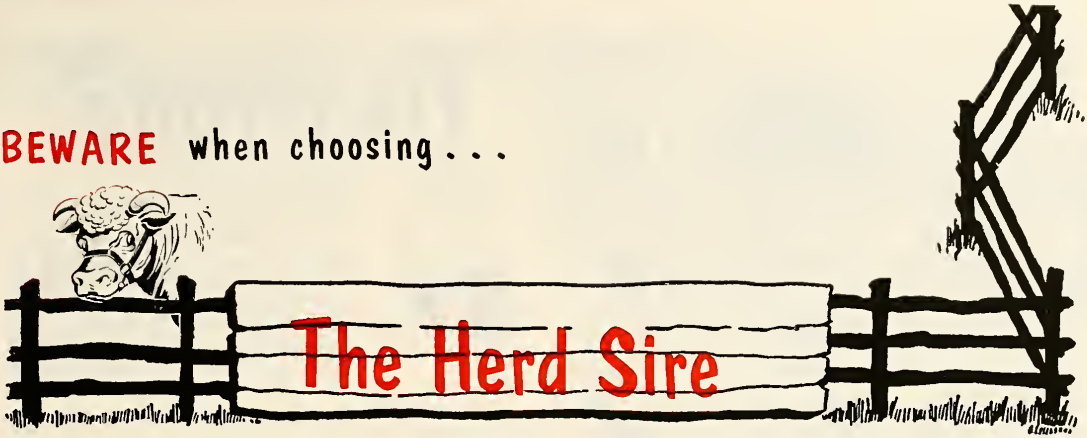
BEWARE when choosing . . .



The Herd Sire

By Bob Day
American Hereford Association

CHOOSING A HERD SIRE is important. In fact, it is one of the most important steps any breeder takes in the development of his beef herd. His choice is reflected in the offspring, whether it be good or bad, and beef animals are far too valuable today to leave it to luck and get a "bum steer"!

There are a lot of good bulls on the market today. But just any good bull may not be the right one to head your herd. For that reason it is wise to consider a number of factors when making the selection.

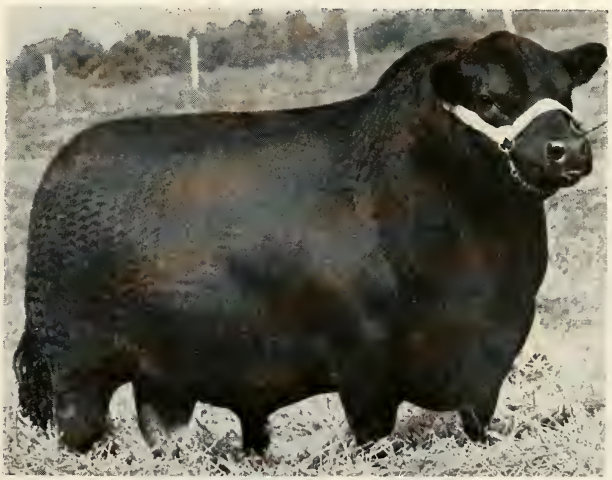
One of the first steps is to study your cows carefully. Then pick the bull that is strong where the cows are weakest. In doing this it may not be possible to correct all faults at once, but decide which points you need to improve most, such as type, thickness, bone or heads, and then find the bull. A medium-sized bull is usually preferred to an unusually large or undersized one.

If you are a beginner, or have a small herd, here is a sound suggestion. A proven sire, even though eight or ten years old, can often be used successfully in small herds and can occasionally be purchased at a very reasonable figure. Buy older bulls on the breeding record they have made.

On the other hand, if you are picking a young bull, see both the sire and dam if possible. Remember, a real breeding bull will be cheap at almost any price, whereas a common bull is almost always an expensive one. It is not possible to have cows so excellent that any decent bull will get a good calf, therefore the bull must be distinctly superior to the average of your cows if any real improvement is to be made in breeding cattle. Find the right bull, and then consider the price!

The sire which is purchased to produce modern cattle should not only look the part at maturity but should have been a good calf. To know that he won an older class at a major show is not enough; learn also where he placed as a calf. The reserve champion bull of one Denver show, a junior calf, came back a year later and was made champion bull, thus demonstrating that he was both a good calf and a good junior yearling.

Courtesy Am. Aberdeen Angus Assoc.



The fastest improvement will come to your herd when bulls are used which are far superior to the cows, like the Angus sire shown here.

When it comes to breeding, your mating possibilities fall into four groups. On the basis of pedigree you have:

1) Mating animals with like pedigrees (linebreeding or closebreeding).

2) Mating animals with unlike pedigrees (outcrossing).

On the basis of appearance, you have:

3) Mating animals with like appearance (small to small, large to large, leggy to leggy, lowset to lowset).

4) Mating animals unlike in appearance (lowset to leggy, smooth to rough, compact to rangy).

Obviously, the beginning breeder who selects a group of similar cows and a bull which will improve their common faults is mating unlike to unlike. Furthermore, more often than not the bull will represent different bloodlines, and hence, he is an outcross. Thus the orderly procedure of improvement is put in motion.

SUPERIOR BULLS SPEED IMPROVEMENT

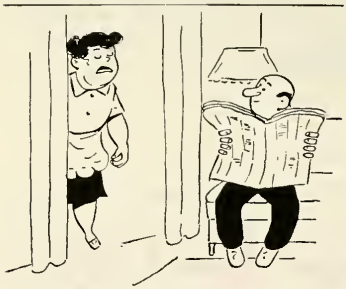
Only when a few of the cows in your herd are equal in individuality, or in breeding ability, to the bull, can one expect to produce a bull calf which will

be better than his sire. Certainly the fastest improvement will come when bulls are used which are far superior to the cows rather than when the cows are near average in quality and the bull not better than the cows.

If your cattle are average or below average, you should not inbreed; outcrossing will bring faster improvement. Average cattle have numerous faults and inbreeding will only intensify these faults and make them more pronounced.

If you are a breeder with better-than-average cattle you can consider linebreeding, but you had better outcross until there is no doubt that your herd is sufficiently good.

If you are a breeder with superior cattle you can often linebreed to advantage. These herds have many animals of outstanding merit and the good points of some chosen ancestor will be more nearly fixed or maintained by linebreeding. Results are fairly certain to be satisfactory, if culling is wisely done and rigidly adhered to.



"Come and get it!"

BREEDING SUGGESTIONS

Here are some common sense suggestions in breeding from the American Hereford Association:

"Like begets like"—two wrongs make a third wrong, not a right.

You can't mate two shallow-bodied animals and produce depth of body.

You can't get good-headed calves by mating a plain-headed bull to plain-headed cows.

You cannot mate long-bodied animals and produce compactness.

If the heifers aren't as good as their dams you are using the wrong bull.

If the bull doesn't get the job done on a uniform set of cows, sell him! He will cost you more to use than to sacrifice on his cost. Invest in another sire.

You can't buy 25 cows from 25 herds and expect one bull to "nick" on all 25 cows.

If the bull "clicks" with a good cow, rebreed to that bull.

If a cow produces poor calves from several different bulls, sell the cow. Except in unusual cases, a cow failing to breed regularly should be culled.

Don't sell a good bull that is doing a real job for your herd just because you have heifers by him and only enough cows for one bull. Keep the old bull at work and buy a second bull to use on the heifers. Save a son of the old bull and try him on the cows before you let the old bull go.

No one can produce choice cattle from bulls which would never have made more than medium-grade steers.

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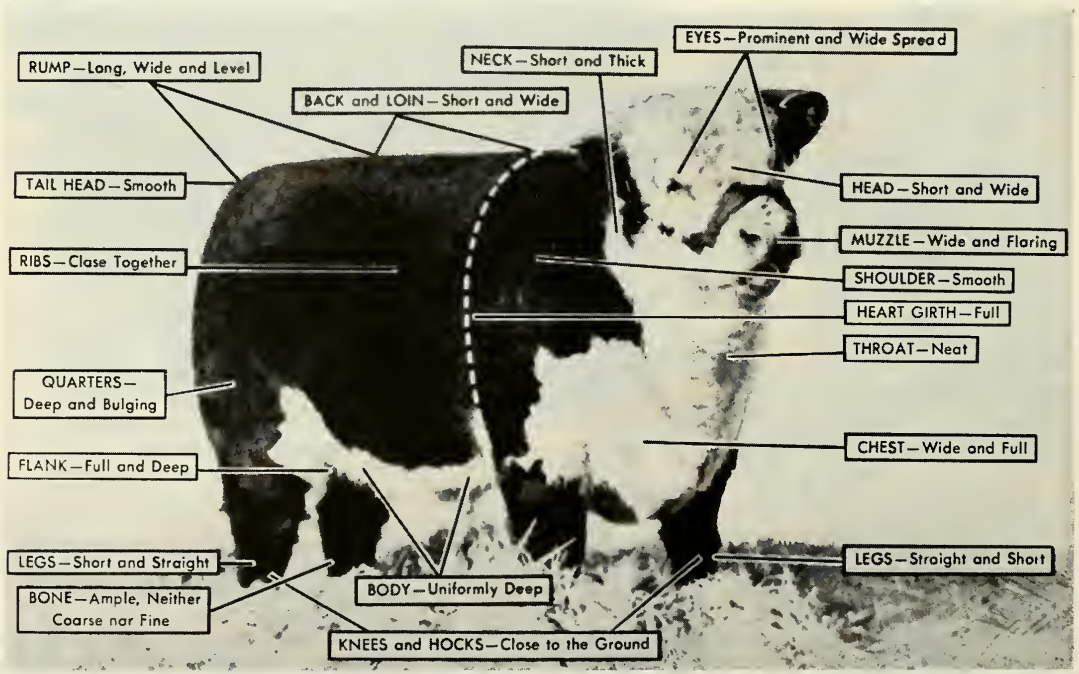


The choice of the herd sire is reflected in the offspring and it is one of the most important steps a breeder takes.

Study the ancestry of an animal as well as how he placed as a calf. Learn characteristics of Hereford bull above.

Sportrait

By Stan Allen

DURING a high school championship baseball game in 1920 at Chicago's Wrigley Field, a big, husky boy hit a ball over the right field fence to break up a tie ball game. This was quite a feat for a school boy, and soon had him labeled as the Boy Babe Ruth. It was the first time Lou Gehrig was to be compared with the Babe—but not the last.

Henry Louis Gehrig was born in New York City June 19, 1903. Being from a low income family he had to work at odd jobs to help support them. Because of this he learned most of his baseball on the sidewalks of New York. He always found time for sports though, and during his high school days played football, baseball, basketball, and soccer . . . and played them all well.

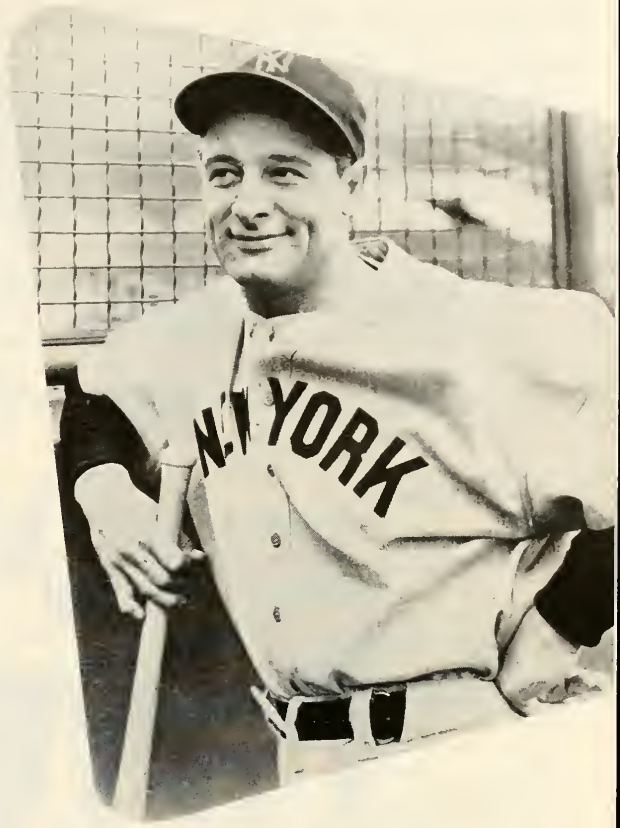
After graduation, Lou accepted an athletic scholarship to Columbia University. He lost his eligibility to participate in sports during his freshman year because he played in 12 games for Hartford in the Eastern Baseball League, not knowing that this would hurt his amateur standing. However, he did participate in all practice sessions that first year and when he joined the varsity teams later he was one of the best players on the field. In football, Lou was one of the best punters on the team, but baseball was his game. In college he played outfield, pitcher, and played first base, his best position. His long ball hitting had the whole campus talking and pro baseball scouts were watching him. In 1923 he was spotted by Paul Krichell of the New York Yankees who had his name inked to a contract before anyone else got the chance.

After his last college game in 1923, Gehrig joined the Yankees. One can imagine how this 20-year-old felt when he walked into the clubhouse among those who were his idols: such stars as Babe Ruth, Bob Meusel, Joe Dugan, and Wally Pipp. During Lou's first stretch in the batters' cage he was so nervous he couldn't get the bat off his shoulder, but this didn't last long. Soon he sent a tremendous drive into the center field bleachers. Even then the other players began to respect his potential. Lou didn't stay with the Yankees long that first year as there was no place on the team for a green kid. After appearing in 12 games and hitting at a .423 clip he was sent, of all places, to Hartford.

After being recalled by the Yankees in 1924 and hitting for a .500 average, Lou was sent back to Hartford for more experience. Not being a natural he had to practice hard to get the flaws out of his fielding. This patience and practice made Gehrig into one of the best first basemen that the game has ever known. With Hartford that year he hit for a .369 average with 37 home runs. He was now big league material.

In June of 1925 Lou went in to rest the regular first baseman, Wally Pipp. It amounted to a long rest for Pipp, for Gehrig did not leave that position again for 13 years. In his first year he hit a very respectable .295 average. Then in 1926 he hit a .313 average with 16 home runs to help the Yankees win the pennant and went on to hit a .348 in the world series that year. Then in '27, Lou really began to roll, hitting at a .373 clip with 47 home runs, helping the Yankees take another pennant.

For the next 10 years Gehrig was to go on at this amazing pace with his average never falling below .300. In 1932, during a game with the tough Philadelphia Athletics, he performed one of the greatest feats of baseball by hitting four home runs in one game. At the time only two other players had done this. Gehrig went on to hit .349 that year, and in the world series he hit a terrific .529 with three home runs. It seemed that every time he performed some outstanding feat something else would happen in the news to take the stories away from him. Babe Ruth had been getting all of the press coverage as he lived high and always



seemed to just lead Gehrig in home runs. When Ruth began to fade in 1931 another colorful youngster came along to take the credit lines. Gehrig had always been a quiet, shy person, and although he was a star in his own right, he never received the credit that lesser players have received.

Then in 1934, hitting for a .363 average with 49 home runs, Lou was batting champion, home run leader, led in runs batted in, and then was voted the League's most valuable player. He was to receive this last honor four times during his career. It was also in 1934 that Gehrig felt the pains of an illness that was to cut his career, and his life, short, just when he was reaching the height of his career.

Gehrig went on for the next five years fighting those pains as first one illness and then another. Then on a day in May of 1938, the nearly impossible happened. Gehrig, as team captain, benched himself. He missed his first game in 13 years. He had set an all-time major league endurance record of playing 2,130 consecutive games. He really was the Iron Horse of baseball. Shortly after that he found that his illness was a form of infantile paralysis and that his baseball days were over. Lou stayed with the team the rest of the season as captain and could be found in the dugout during every game.

Gehrig was elected to Baseball's Hall of Fame in 1939 to join other baseball immortals so that the generations to come could see his likeness and records. Lou Gehrig died on June 2, 1941, at the age of 38. He closed out his baseball career with a lifetime batting average of .340 with 494 home runs and 1991 runs batted in. In 13 consecutive seasons he batted in over 100 runs! Had his career not been cut short, Lou would have written many more marks into the records. Number 4, Gehrig's number with the Yankees, had been retired so that no other player would wear it, but his records will long remain as an inspiration to others. ◆◆◆

Pop's a Champ

By LaRue Hart

A PICK-UP with *Benderville FFA Chapter* splashed across the side stopped in front of the little frame house on the edge of town. A tall, rangy boy in blue jeans erupted from its cab, and the truck clattered away.

Joe Dozier, star of Benderville High's football squad, pushed his western hat back and rubbed a hand across his stubby crew-cut hair. He grinned after the truck for a minute and then hit the front steps in two strides.

"Mom!" he called. "That feed I ordered for Butch come? Hey, Mom!"

"Joe Dozier," came a voice from the kitchen, "how many times have I told you to come into the house before yelling at me?"

Joe took off his hat and sailed it into the kitchen from the dining room door. "Safe to come in yet, Mom?"

Alice Dozier shut off the electric mixer and looked up. A big smile crinkled the corners of her soft blue eyes. "Aw, Joe, whatever in the world will I do when you are in college next year?"

Joe, reaching into the refrigerator for a bottle of milk, grinned back. "You're

a big girl now, Mom. You can get along without me." He poured milk into a tall glass. "How about that feed, Mom?"

"It's here, and you'd better get a move on. Feed that ram of yours before Pop gets home. He's on the warpath."

"What for?"

"Mr. Felton complained to the City Council about Butch smelling up the neighborhood, and. . . ."

"That old fossil!"

"And," Alice Dozier went on, "your father has called a family council for tonight to discuss that and your college career."

"Oh, not again," Joe groaned.

Mrs. Dozier wiped the flour from her hands. "Joe, couldn't you study pharmacy? That wouldn't take any capital to get started when you finish college."

Joe put his empty glass on the cabinet and reached for his hat. Then he put his arm around his mother's shoulders and looked down at her disturbed face. "Don't take it so hard, Mom. Agriculture's a good living."

"Yes, but Pop. . . ."

"He'll come around. You'll see." Joe turned his you-can't-help-loving-me smile on and headed for the back door. "Well, I'd better get down to the back forty and ride herd on Butch. That ram will see me through yet, I'll bet."

The "back forty" was half the Dozier acre-plot, which Joe had fenced for his FFA projects four years before. Then he had raised chickens. And there had followed in succession and over the protests and ridicule of his father, rabbits, a hog, a Jersey calf, and now Butch, a Rambouillet ram. A small shed sat in one corner. Joe had built it the summer before. In the opposite corner a huge mesquite tree drooped its shade. Joe kept the pen raked as clean as his mother's kitchen.

Now Joe, scuffing toward the gate, kicked at a rock. Bucking Mom and Pop over this college deal was as tough as moving a tackling sled at football practice. He opened the gate and sidled into the lot with Butch. "Hey, Butch, boy." His voice was almost a croon. Butch came over and rubbed against Joe's legs. Joe cuffed at the ram's head. "You hungry, boy? Got some fresh feed for you today?" He talked softly while untieing the gunny sack. "This'll put pounds on you, boy," Joe told him as he poured grain into an old tub. "You'll be a big shot in that show. We'll win us a prize yet!"

He stood a minute, his eyes lost in the distance. Then he pulled a brush from his hip pocket and dropped to his knees. "Boy, what a coat you've got. Those judges will like this. Then Pop and his old State University can go jump in the lake!" His voice was eager and excited.

"Say, Joe, Butch looks a little pale today, doesn't he?" It was Stan Phillips, a neighbor. He and Bill Stone, another friend, liked to lean over the fence of an evening and chew the fat with Joe.

Joe raised his head and grinned. "Hi, Stan," he called. "Sure Butch is pale. He's scared . . . scared he'll win that show Saturday."

"Darned if I don't think he will, too," Bill said as he joined Stan at the fence.

"He'd better." Joe was grim.

"What's the matter, Joe?" Stan asked. "Your Pop riding you again?"

Joe frowned. He hoped those guys didn't think Pop was a square. "Yeah," he said, "but it's nothing. Probably thinks it's all for my good."

"I hear Felton squawked to the Council today about you and your livestock. What's your pop say about it?"

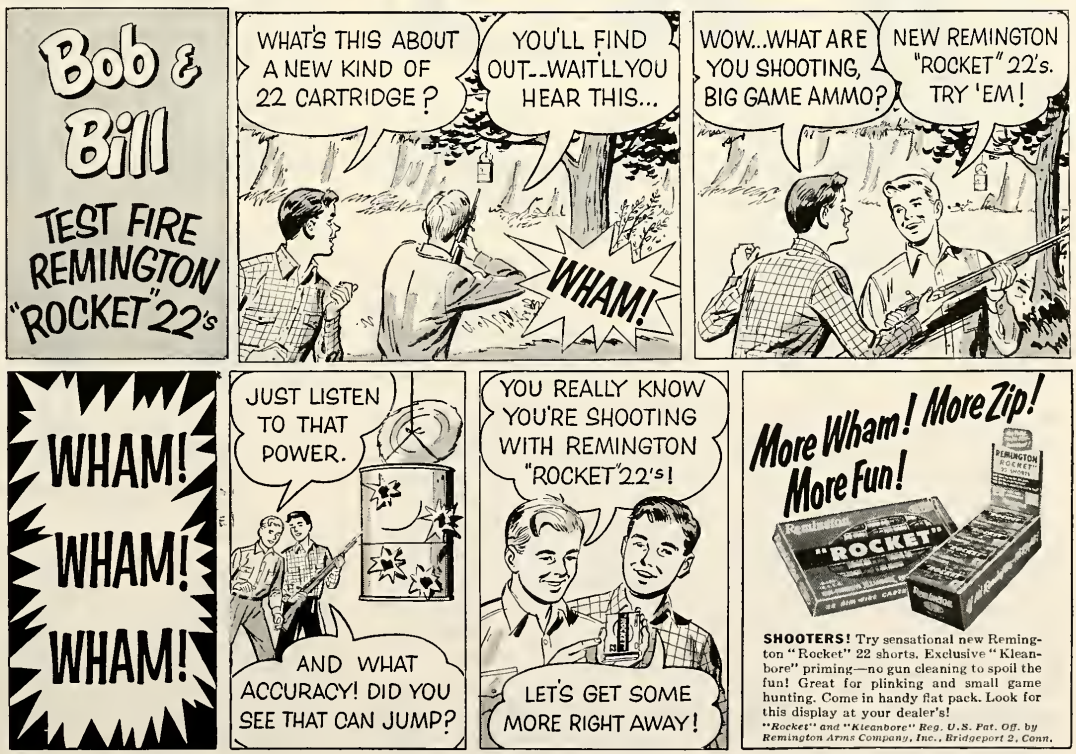
"I'll answer that after supper. He's not home yet."

"Joe! Joe!" Alice Dozier called from the back steps. "Mary wants to talk to you on the 'phone."

"Joe's got a girl, Joe's got a girl," Stan and Bill chanted.

"Aw, lay off, fellows, will you?" Joe jogged toward the house.

Mary Parker was the prettiest girl in Benderville High School. She was the FFA Chapter Sweetheart, and all the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guys asked her for dates, but somehow she always managed to go with Joe every time he asked her. When he was with her, though, his heart either rode sideways in his throat, or it split and anchored in his feet. Either he couldn't talk or he couldn't walk. And sometimes he couldn't do either. Mary was the first girl Joe had ever fallen for. Now he sucked in his breath. "Hi, Mary," he said. But it seemed to him

his voice came out of his ears, so he tried again. "Hi. Mary."

"How are you taking Butch to the Fair Grounds, Joe?" Even over the telephone Mary's voice danced.

"In the FFA pick-up."

"Oh, that's wonderful. Dad said you could use ours if you wanted."

"Well, thanks, but I won't need it."

"Say, we saw Butch when we came by there today. He's beautiful!"

"You think he'll win?"

"Sure, and Dad does, too." Mary, like most of Joe's friends, belonged to a ranching family.

"Well, I hope he knows," Joe said, but his voice wavered.

"What's the matter, Joe? Is your Pop giving you trouble again? He makes me mad!"

Joe's hand tightened around the receiver. Not even Mary could talk about Pop. After a short silence Joe said slowly, through clenched teeth, "Mary, Pop's all right. He'll come around."

A nervous little giggle came over the wire. "Sure he will, Joe."

At the supper table later, Joe faced his father. Big Joe, as his customers called him, was Benderville's leading barber, and he always smelled faintly of his shop. A tall man with big shoulders, he wore his black curly hair plastered to his head. He never had a five o'clock shadow, and he prided himself on his soft hands.

"This business of Felton complaining about your livestock is serious, son," he began, when the meal was at the apple pie stage. "It's embarrassing and bad for business." Joe hunched his shoulders and waited. Big Joe waved a fork. "It won't do. We're town folks." He spoke in the voice he reserved for his best customers. "We've never been farmers. We don't know anything about farming."

"Yeh, I know, Pop. You've told me often enough. And I've told you, I don't want to be just a farmer, period. I want to be a rancher, capital R."

"Farmer! Rancher! What's the difference?" Big Joe's voice rose. "Where do you think we'll ever get enough money to set you up in business. Land costs money." He frowned across the table at his wife, who was making shushing sounds.

Alice Dozier looked at her raging husband and then at her blue-jeaned son, who always seemed about to fall apart. A frown stopped her smile. "Let's not get excited," she said, and her eyes begged. "Listen, son, couldn't you study law, maybe?"

"Look, Mom," and he turned on his special Mom smile. "I've told you. I don't like working inside, period."

Big Joe looked up, pleased. "Then engineering is the thing. Field's wide open. I was talking to. . . ."

"Nope," and this time Joe wasn't grinning. "Not interested. Want to raise livestock. If I go to college next year I go to A & M." Then he turned

to his mother. "Will you excuse me? Got to see about Butch."

"Butch! Butch! You think more of that stinking sheep than you do of us," Big Joe snapped. But Joe slammed the door without an answer.

Just before Joe dropped off to sleep that night he overheard his Mom and Pop in their bedroom next to his. "But Big Joe, honey," Mom said, "he's not going to change his mind. He's eighteen and he's wanted to be a rancher for five years." Joe closed his eyes. He knew exactly what Mom was doing. She was sitting at the dressing table brushing her hair and looking at Pop in the mirror. And Pop was lying in bed.

"If he's old enough to make up his mind, he's old enough to see that he can't afford to be a farmer. You have to inherit land to be a good farmer."

"Rancher, honey."

"Rancher, hooey! Ranching's worse than farming. They all starve to death in a depression or drouth."

"Sure, and so does everyone else."

"Say, what is this?" Pop growled. "Are you going over to Joe's side?"

There was a little silence and Joe lay breathless, waiting for his mother's reply. "Well," she said finally, "I talked with Mr. Jackson, his agriculture teacher, today. He says Joe is really good in agriculture. I think maybe we ought to let the boy decide for himself."

In the next room young Joe burrowed into his pillow. Good old Mom! She was seeing it his way, and she'd help win Pop.

The next morning Joe was up and outside with Butch before his Mom and Pop were awake. When he came in for breakfast he found Big Joe roaring like a Texas tornado.

"Shut the door!" he yelled before Joe was halfway through it. "And wash up good. You smell! You stink! And get rid of Butch at that blasted show tomorrow! And I don't want any more livestock around here. I'm tired of the whole neighborhood smelling like a barnyard. No wonder Mr. Felton complained."

"Now, Pop . . ." Joe began.

"Don't 'now Pop' me," Big Joe interrupted. "You can't hoodwink me like you do your mother."

Only the gentle gurgle of the percolater broke the sudden stillness of the room. Joe picked at his scrambled egg. Finally he pushed his plate back. "I guess I'm not hungry this morning." His father looked up with a scowl, but Joe excused himself before he could say anything.

At the door he turned. His eyes bored into his father. "I'll sell Butch, Dad, like you said. And I won't have any more projects. But," and his voice cracked, "I'm going to take agriculture at A & M if I have to work for every penny of my expenses. And I'll buy my

own land, too. Even if it takes twenty years of working for someone else!" He slammed the door and his boot heels clicked on the porch.

But on the graveled drive he stopped and leaned against the house. He was trembling worse than a mesquite tree in a dust storm. He guessed he'd really turned into a character, shooting off his big mouth at Pop that way. Then he

caught his breath in his aching throat. He could hear them inside.

"Oh, Big Joe," Mom was almost crying.

"The young whipper-snapper! Who does he think he is? I might have changed my mind once, but not now." That was Pop, and his voice was cold.

Joe swallowed hard around the lump in his throat and scuffed on down the driveway, turning north toward the high school. He had really fouled up things now. If it weren't for the show tomorrow he might leave home today—what with Pop so angry and Mom probably not speaking to either of them.

Absently he trailed a finger along the picket fence around the house he was passing. But then he suddenly jerked it back. This was Mr. Felton's place. He supposed this was just as good a time as any to tell the old geezer he was selling Butch. Might as well apologize, too.

But with one hand raised to open the gate Joe froze. Every muscle in his body tightened and the sweat poured down his forehead. Then he moved. He yanked the gate open and raced toward the ladder leaning against the Felton home. His long legs that sometimes got tangled in each other moved like well-oiled pistons. He kicked off his boots and scampered up the ladder two rungs at a time. Atop the house, he crept toward the highest ridge, where Pinky Felton, aged four, clung by his hands, the rest of his body spread-eagle down the sharply sloping roof.

Joe, remembering that soft voices calmed frightened animals, crooned to Pinky, "Hey, you sure are a big boy to climb up here. Does your hand hurt? Hold on, Pinky, I'm coming. Hold on, now. . . ."

Joe's calm voice was suddenly drowned out by a startled cry from below, as Pinky's mother discovered his plight.

Pinky, already rigid with fear, let go, sliding downward. Joe made a wild leap and caught the small boy by the arm. Then they both slid toward the edge of the roof. Joe got a toe-hold on the drain pipe, though, and slowly edged his way to the ladder. He set Pinky down. "You can climb down now, can't you, Pinky?"

"Ye-ess," said Pinky, and started down. Joe heaved a big sigh and wiped the sweat from his face. He scrambled down the ladder and lay on the grass to put on his boots.

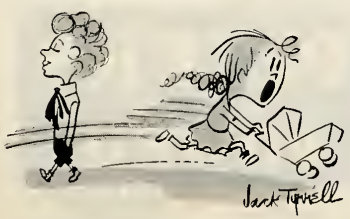
"Oh, Joe, how can I ever thank you!" It was Mrs. Felton, holding the crying Pinky in her arms.

"Aw, it wasn't anything. Is Mr. Felton at home?"

"No."

"Well, I just wanted to see him about Butch smelling up the neighborhood. Tell him I'm selling Butch tomorrow, and I won't have any more livestock projects." Mrs. Felton's mouth opened, but Joe was around the corner of the house. If she said anything he didn't hear.

Saturday was a soft spring day. The Benderville Stock Show officials decided to hold the day's events in the open. The show ring was roped off next to one of the gravel roads that wound through the Fair Grounds to the river. It was shaded by huge oak and pecan trees, already in full leaf. Most of the spectators had brought their own chairs or camp stools. Opposite the entrance gate a long table was set up for the officials and for the radio announcer. Owners of show animals and their cattle, sheep, and hogs were bunched together in little knots under the trees.



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They ranged in a semicircle at a little distance from the show ring.

Sun splashed through the oak leaves and warmed Joe's back as he crouched with Butch, waiting his turn in the ring. Bleats, grunts, bellows filled the air. The buzz of people talking and the raucous notes of the loud speaker came to Joe under the tree. The warm, acrid odor of the animals penetrated the thin, clear air.

Joe sniffed, shivered slightly, and then grinned. He must be a square, he thought, to act like this. Even the jarring notes of the loud speaker calling the different events sounded better than the whirr of the electric clippers in Pop's shop. Butch moved restlessly. Joe dug the heels of his dusty, scuffed boots into the soft earth and threw one arm around the ram's neck. He'd miss this all next year when he was in college.

Next year. College. Joe felt the tightness settle over him again. Ever since yesterday morning's scene with Pop his stomach kept rising and getting in the way of his tongue.

"Hi, there!" Joe looked up, and there stood Mary. Her soft brown curls hanging from underneath her Western hat blew around her neck. Her tiny figure, in plaid shirt, jeans with plaid cuffs, and red boots, was as streamlined as that slick red convertible in Hodge's showrooms.

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He gave Butch a pat and stood up, but somehow he couldn't manage a smile for her. "What's the matter, Joe?"

"I shouldn't have done it, Mary."

"What?"

"Talked to Pop the way I did. It really doesn't matter where I go to college, if everything at home is going to be cold as a cemetery. If I'd just kept my big mouth shut!"

Mary grinned at him. "It'll work out, Joe. Honest it will. Know what everybody is talking about? About how you saved little Pinky Felton. And Mrs. Felton made Mr. Felton go to the Council and withdraw his complaint!"

Joe's mouth dropped open. "You're kidding."

"No, I'm not, Joe. Really! It was Mrs. Felton made him complain anyway. She was afraid Pinky would get contaminated or something."

"Well, how do you like that?" Butch nudged Joe, and he looked down at the ram. Then he shrugged his shoulders. "Guess it's too late to do any good, though. I've already ruined everything by losing my temper."

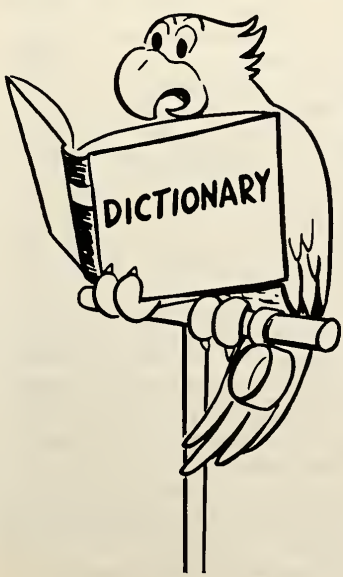
"Aw, Joe, I bet if you'd tell your Pop you're sorry he'd forgive you."

"Yeah, maybe. I wanted to this morning, but. . . ."

The loud speaker calling Butch's class interrupted. Mary moved back and Joe coaxed Butch forward. "Good luck, Joe," Mary called.

Joe felt as if he were going to the slaughter pen himself. He ground his teeth together as he stood for a minute at the gate to the ring. "Well, Butch, this is it," he whispered.

He guided the ram forward into place with seven other rams. Then the eight



Art Winburg

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contestants inched their animals around the ring. Butch was stubborn and Joe concentrated on keeping him moving. As they circled slowly, one thought emerged uppermost in Joe's mind. Mary was right. He must apologize to Pop. But right now, he told himself, I must concentrate on being a good showman.

And then a queer feeling came over him. The judge was watching Butch. He felt his hold quicken on the ram and Butch responded with the stride of a champion. The judge motioned to Joe to pull his entry to the side. And soon, one by one, he lined them up, leaving Butch at the head of the class. Joe reached down and patted Butch. "Perk up, old boy; here comes the judge for closer inspection."

Again Butch must have understood, for he stood rigid while the judge ran his hand over him. And when he moved off to examine the remaining entries, Butch nudged Joe as if to say, "It's in the bag!" Joe cuffed Butch, and suddenly there was an official coming toward him with the blue ribbon.

Late that night, though, Joe stood hesitantly on his front steps. In his pocket was a fat check. He ought to be happy, he told himself. But he hated facing Pop. Apologizing always made him feel like a goon. But he squared his shoulders, swallowed the lump in his throat, and opened the door.

Big Joe was sitting in his easy chair reading the paper, and Mom was curled up on the divan. Both looked up at Joe and smiled.

"Hi, son. I hear you had the Grand Champion Ram. Must make you feel pretty good to beat all those ranchers' sons," Big Joe said.

Joe's eyes widened and he broke into a half grin.

"Yes, sir, pretty good. And Pop, I want to. . . ."

But Big Joe interrupted. "That was a pretty nice thing you did—saving little Pinky Felton."

"That was thinking on your feet," Mom put in.

"Aw, wasn't anything. Pinky's just a crazy, mixed-up little kid. About our fuss, Pop, I want to. . . ."

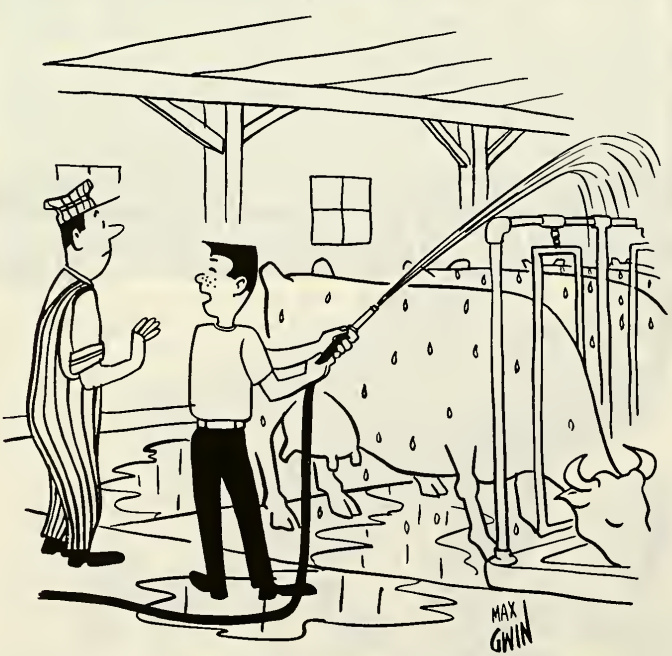
"Forget it, son." Big Joe rubbed one hand along the arm of his chair. "And another thing," his voice cracked with pride, "you can go to A & M next year and take agriculture. I guess any time a town boy can show the Grand Champion he'll make a good farm—oops, I mean rancher."

For a second Joe stared as if he hadn't heard. Then his boots and voice split the living room air at the same time.

"Yip-pee! My Pop's a Champ!"

◆◆◆

City Cousin



"But you said 'water the cows.'"

How's Your Credit Rating?

By Elmer Sealover *and* Wilmer L. Harris

MONEY FOR PROJECT expansion is not always easy to get. However, members of the Cumberland Valley FFA Chapter, located near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, think they have the problem licked. They have a loan committee patterned after its sponsor, the senior Production Credit Association.

This loan committee is the first of its kind in the state. It was started after the opening of the 1955-56 school term and has already approved loans totaling $3,740. The committee itself is composed of three members of the FFA, one each from the sophomore, junior, and senior class, along with the FFA advisor.

Future Farmers at Cumberland Valley are encouraged to borrow money if they feel that they can profit by borrowing. The loans help them "grow" into farming by enabling them to expand the scope of their projects and also by helping them establish a good credit rating.

When a Future Farmer decides he needs a loan, he fills out an application blank completely. The application tells how much money he needs. what it will be used for, and how he plans to earn the money to repay the loan. First requirement is that the loan must be for a farm project.

The application form is returned to the loan committee, and the applicant then sits down with the committee, as shown in the photo above where Leonard Stoner, right, explains his need for the money. and answers any questions concerning details. After the committee (seated left to right, Advisor Wilmer J. Harris, and FFA committee members Mervin Raudabaugh, Terry Paulus, and Donald Deckman) is satisfied that it has all the information needed to act, the applicant is dismissed and a decision made on whether to grant or reject the loan. If the loan is approved by the committee, each member signs the application. Then it is sent to the adult PCA which sends the check to the Future Farmer who made application for the loan. If it is not approved it is dropped.

On the basis of its experience the Cumberland Valley Chapter feels that this is a very worthwhile activity for helping students get established in farming. Any chapter can set up a loan committee by contacting its local PCA. The local group will furnish application blanks for the chapter and will help to get the committee going.

A junior PCA can be set up instead of the loan committee. if preferred. However, with a junior group, there would be a board of directors, an annual meeting, and it would involve many organizational problems which might not be necessary since Future Farmers get experience in running an organization through their activities in the FFA.

Reasons for a loan committee are that in addition to helping Future Farmers, it teaches first hand how to use credit and solve problems similar to those encountered after school graduation and leaving the FFA. And not the least in importance. it gives FFA members a chance to establish credit rating. ◆◆◆

This is believed to be a picture of the first American Farmer group made in 1929. It was discovered recently in a local FFA chapter in Idaho. Do you recognize any of these fellows? If so, write and tell us which ones.

Photo Roundup

Norman Brown, 17, state president of Michigan FFA, has received a $1,000 college scholarship. It was given by the Beet Sugar Industry of Michigan.

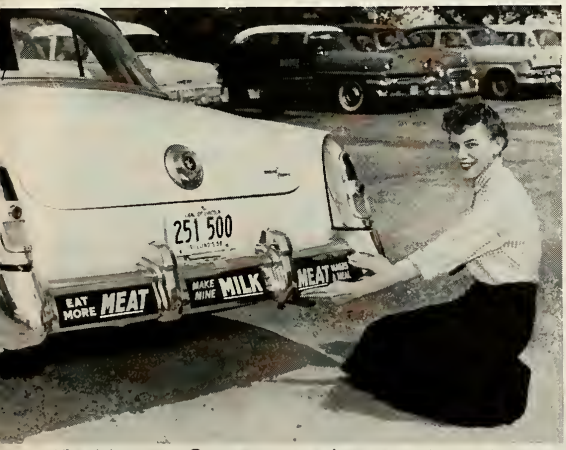
Oregon's "Mother of the Year" is also mother of National FFA President Dan Dunham. Here she chats with Dr. A. W. Tenney at reception in her honor at national FFA office.

These youths represent eight youth organizations that are cooperating in national program of Keep America Beautiful, Inc. Dick Besnier, rear left, New Jersey, represents FFA.

Johnny Fugate, right above, has reason for being all smiles. The Tazewell, Tennessee, youth won the top award of $500 in the Federal Fertilizer $2,000 Cash Prize Contest which appeared in The National FUTURE FARMER. Johnny is shown receiving his check from popular radio comedienne, Minnie Pearl, on the Grand Ole Opry program of June 2. The contest was open to all farm youths of 21 years or younger. Johnny plans to use his money to help pay for a college education in farm management and animal husbandry after high school graduation.

College will get these Nebraska FFA members. They are winners of Carl Raymond Gray Scholarships, being presented by Joe Jarvis of the Union Pacific Railroad.

These Florida champions are owned by Rudy Reddingfield, left, of Winter Haven, and Johnny Thomas of Fort Meade, and were shown at Polk County Youth Fair.



The Moorman Company gave bumper strips to its many employees and friends. They feel that eating away the farm surplus will result in a healthier, more prosperous nation.

This is Nebraska's Star Farmer of 1956, Dale Groskurth, of the Pender Chapter. An active showman, he is pictured at the Nebraska State Fair with his entry, a champion Duroc.

Farm Pond Fishing

By Matt Thomas

NOW THAT YOU HAVE a farm fish pond, good fishing is possible right at your back door—and not only for you but also for your friends and neighbors. Fact is, you should take a lot of fish from your pond. That's the rewarding Rule No. 1 of good farm pond management, and surprisingly, it makes the fishing better. Could there be a better excuse for going fishing?

But whether your pond offers good fishing depends upon how you stock it at the start. You want the right kinds of fish and the correct number, too, in order to have good fishing of the right sort in a hurry.

All sorts of books and pamphlets are available on the subject of stocking farm ponds, but the best advice can be obtained from your local conservation service. Recent discoveries show that what's best in one area may not be as productive in another. Your state conservation biologists will know which kinds of fish will give you the best results and will also know the correct ratio of forage to game species for your area. They may also be able to help you get the fish free.

One other point: before you let your pond fill with water, make certain that you have installed a drain pipe and a catch basin. No matter how much you fish your pond, there will come a time when its "balance" will be so upset that starting over is the most practical solution. With a drain pipe, this is easy, and you can use the catch basin to sort out the fish for restocking.

The species of fish used for stocking in ponds varies from state to state as does the ratio. The principle involved, however, is the same. Your pond will be stocked with a carnivorous fish, such as the largemouth black bass, and with a forage species, such as the bluegill, on which the bass can feed. Often after only a season or two, the forage species "take over." They become too numerous and stunted. This happens because the carnivorous fish don't spawn as often or produce as many young, and neither are their appetites great enough to keep the forage fish in check. It is when this happens that your pond is "out of balance."

So, assuming that you stock with bass and bluegills, you should try to catch as many bluegills as you can and not return any of them to the water—even if they aren't big enough to eat. Truth is, when you no longer catch big bluegills or see them in your pond, it may mean that it's about time to revitalize your pond by draining and starting over again.

With the bass, you can set up special rules and regulations for your pond. You can allow catching only so many per trip, keeping only those of a certain size, or what ever seems to keep your bass fishing at its peak. Chances are slim, unless you become really expert at bass fishing, that you'll overfish the pond.

To keep the bluegills in check, some pond owners make special traps to catch them. I know one pond owner who puts all of his trapped bluegills in his freezer for later use. The saucer-sized ones become breakfasts for him and his family, the smaller ones become breakfasts for the bass during months when their natural food is shy. He grinds the frozen fish in a meat grinder and then throws them back into the pond. This trick he learned from watching the biologists feed ground-up carp and suckers to their hatchery fish.

Try to keep undesirable fish from being introduced into your pond. For example, some of your friends may want to use minnows for bait. Don't let them—unless you're positive that the minnows are dead. If a live minnow gets off the hook or a minnow bucket is dumped on the bank, you'll soon have a pond full of minnows. Worse yet, you may end up with a pond full of suckers or carp. And every pound of undesirable fish your pond has to feed means one pound less of fighting fish for you to catch.

Even if you're careful, of course, such fish may show up in your ponds. Bullheads often do. Their eggs are carried in on the feet of shore birds. Many people like to catch bullheads, and they're fine eating, too. But sooner or later you will want to drain the pond and get back to your original species.

Two other questions are likely to come up, and again, you can get the best answers from your local conservation service. One is: should I fertilize my pond? Your pond will be as rich as its watershed, and so there is no pat answer to the question. It is often true, though, that a pond must be fertilized to make the plankton— the microscopic plants and animals on which the forage fish feed—grow abundantly. But to learn the kind of fertilizer which is best for your pond and the amount to apply, you should talk to an expert in your area. Generally speaking, a fertile pond will obscure a white disc submerged twelve inches below the surface. Fasten a piece of white cardboard on the end of a yardstick and lower it into the water. If you can still see the disc after it is below the twelve-inch mark, you'd be wise to call on an expert for some help.

Another common question is what to do about waterweeds. You should be sure, first of all, that your pond is built with abruptly dropping off shores. It should be two feet deep or more at the shore line. This will prevent many weeds from getting a start. It's best if livestock cannot graze around the edge of the pond. They'll trample the banks, and before long, your pond will be a marsh for muskrats and redwings rather than a place to fish. Even with these precautions, though, weeds will crop up.

Some of these weeds can be pulled by hand—roots and all—before they spread. Others may require special treatment. Your conservation service may recommend applying a heavy dosage of fertilizer to get rid of the underwater weeds. This causes the algae to "bloom," which shuts out the light so that the underwater weeds die and float to the surface. And then if

the algae become too thick and scummy, your conservation expert may recommend using copper sulphate. For the big pond weeds which grow above the surface, if they get out of hand, you can use a chemical weed killer such as 2,4-D.

Finally, some friend will tell you that your pond needs brush piles or other shelters where the fish can hide. Don't believe him. Your biggest problem, remember, will be too many small fish. If you put brush piles or other shelters in your pond, you will be aggravating the situation—because you will be providing the little fish with places to hide from the big ones. Also, you'll be creating places for you to snag your lures.

And that gets us to fishing the pond. In the June-July issue, there was an article which told about how to catch fish. Those same principles apply to a farm pond, except that you have a chance to apply them more carefully and more often. You'll know exactly when your fish feed and in which part of the pond. And since you'll be fishing in unobstructed water where you don't have to worry about hanging up on rocks or snags, you'll have no excuse at all for not using ultra-light tackle. Try it once, and you'll find out just how much fight a bluegill can give. Here, in your private laboratory, you can experiment with getting the most which a fish has to offer and in presenting your baits or lures delicately, accurately, and effectively. This experience, which you can repeat almost daily, will pay big dividends all your life—for no matter where you fish, you'll know how to get the most fun out of fishing. ◆◆◆

Go Fishing this Saturday

Win a prize in this big fishing contest . . . sponsored by your own magazine! Over $800 worth of prizes . . .

A 5½ h.p. Johnson Sea Horse outboard motor!
A Remington Automatic 16-gauge shotgun!
An Argus Super 75 color camera kit!
A South Bend Spinning outfit—rod and reel!
A Remington "60" Deluxe electric shaver!

And many, many more prizes—just waiting for you to catch a fish to enter in the BIG FISHING CONTEST sponsored by *The National FUTURE FARMER!*

Each of the first 250 entrants will get a free $1.25 copy of *The Fisherman's HANDBOOK*—a book packed with information every fisherman needs. We still have a few left, so get your entry in NOW! Contest closes midnight, August 1.

Fishing is fun . . . and it's relaxing. Maybe you need to relax after working in the fields and around the farm all week. Go ahead . . . go fishing this Saturday and you'll do better work next week! And best of all, you may win the big prize you've always wanted!

Right here in the column to the right we are reprinting the rules of the contest . . . and below is an entry blank for you. All you have to do is catch a fish, fill out the blank, and drop it (the entry blank, that is) in the mail. Some Future Farmers are going to be winners! Why not *you*?

Remember . . . contest closes midnight, August 1. Enter now . . . you'll be glad you did!

HOW TO ENTER

It's easy to enter THE NATIONAL FUTURE FARMER Fishing Contest! Using the entry form on this page, fill out **all** the information accurately (and please print!). Submit your entry, signed by your parent, vo-ag teacher or some other adult who knows you, along with a photograph of the firsh to Fish Contest, THE NATIONAL FUTURE FARMER, Box 29, Alexandria, Virginia. Check the contest rules right away!

CONTEST RULES

1. Anyone can enter the fishing contest if he is less than 21 years of age at the time he catches the fish.
2. Your fish must be caught between April 1, 1956, and July 31, 1956. Your entry must be in the mail and postmarked not later than midnight, August 1, 1956.
3. Your fish may be caught in the waters of the United States or its possessions, or in the waters of Canada or Mexico. You must comply with all the fishing laws of the place where you catch your entry.
4. You must catch the fish yourself unassisted, but it can be caught with any kind of rod, reel, and line and on any kind of lure or bait. (Trotline not acceptable.)
5. You must submit a closeup view photograph of you and your fish.
6. Each fish will be judged on the basis of how close it comes to the record catch of its own species. Example: The record catch for largemouth bass is 22 pounds and four ounces, and the record catch for bluegill sunfish is four pounds and 12 ounces. Thus a four-pound bluegill would beat a 10-pound largemouth bass because the bluegill would be closer to the record catch.
7. Each contestant will be eligible to win one prize only, though he may submit as many entries as he desires. In the event someone submits more than one entry, only the top place entry will be considered.
8. In the event of a tie duplicate prizes will be awarded. Judges are the staff of THE NATIONAL FUTURE FARMER, and decisions of the judges will be final. Photographs cannot be acknowledged or returned. Winners will be announced in the October-November issue of THE NATIONAL FUTURE FARMER.

ENTRY BLANK

THE NATIONAL FUTURE FARMER Fishing Contest for 1956

Your entry must be postmarked not later than midnight, August 1, 1956.
(It is not necessary to use this entry blank but your entry must include the information requested on this form.)

1. Kind of fish ..... 2. Weight: .....lbs. .....ozs. .....length.
(Exact name, whether trout is Brook, Rainbow, Lake; or whether bass is largemouth, smallmouth, etc.

3. Where caught ..... Date caught ....., 1956.

Check which: Caught in fresh water..... or salt water.....

4. How caught (check): Rod & Reel..... Spinning rod..... Fly rod..... Other.....

Rod manufacturer..... Reel mfgr..... Lure manufacturer or kind of bait.....

5. Caught by (your name) ..... Age.....
(Please print)

Address ..... City..... State.....
(Route & Box No.)

6. Witness (Signature) .....

(An adult, preferably your ag teacher or one of your parents, must affirm your entry by signing it and giving his address. When asking an adult to sign your entry you must tell him his responsibility. He does not have to see you land the fish, but **he must see the fish.** He must certify the species, weight, and length of your fish. He should know you well enough to verify your age.)

Address of witness ..... City ..... State .....

Identify your witness (parent, ag teacher, etc.) .....

Check your entry again to make sure all the requirements have been met! Then mail the blank with a photograph of you and your fish to Fishing Contest, THE NATIONAL FUTURE FARMER, Box 29, Alexandria, Virginia.

The First One Doesn't Have A Chance!

"He wants to know what's on television tonight."

A new farm hand from the city was told to harness a mule one winter morning in the early hours. In the dark he tackled a cow instead of the mule. The farmer shouted from the house. *"Say, what's keeping you so long?"*

"I can't get the collar over the mule's head," shouted the farm hand. *"Both his ears are frozen stiff."*

Charles Campbell
Waterford, Ohio

An old jalopy puffed up and came to a rattling halt at the toll bridge. *"Sixty-five cents,"* said the bridge keeper.

"Sold!" cried the driver, as he climbed out.

Mervin Bilyew
Britton, South Dakota

Joe: *"I saw a swell play this afternoon but I couldn't stay for the last act."*

Jim: *"Why not?"*

Joe: *"The program said it took place a month later."*

Norman Cantrell
Grove, Oklahoma

Clerk: *"These shirts simply laugh at laundering, it's so easy.*

Customer: *"I have that kind. They always come back with their sides split."*

Ronald Southall
Ripley, West Virginia

"At last," said the ambitious young novelist, *"I have written something that will be accepted by The National FUTURE FARMER."*

"What is it?" asked his friend.

"A check for a year's subscription."

Lawrence Simpson
Covington, Oklahoma

A visitor to a church arrived late, but made up for it by listening attentively to a long, drawn-out sermon. Finally he turned to his neighbor and whispered, *"He's good. How long has he been preaching?"*

"Four years," the other whispered back. *"I'll wait, then,"* the visitor replied. *"He should be through before long."*

Adolph Vacha
Clarkson, Nebraska

Guide: *"This is the famous Leaning Tower of Pisa."*

Farmer: *"Pisa . . . Pisa! Let's see. That doesn't sound quite like the name of the man who built my silo, but it sure does look like his work!"*

Charles Clough
Ferrisburg, Vermont.

Sign outside a London butcher shop: "We make sausage for Queen Elizabeth II." A rival shop across the street put out a sign reading "God save the Queen."

Robert Carter
Bridgeport, Nebraska

Professor: "Can you give me an example of wasted energy?"

Freshman: "Yes, sir. Telling a hair-raising story to a bald-headed man."

John Bartels
Hills, Minnesota

Bobby: *"I'm not going to school tomorrow."*

Mother: *"Why, what do you mean?"*

Bobby: *"On Monday the teacher said four and four were eight. On Tuesday she said six and two were eight, and today she said seven and one are eight. I'm not going back until she makes up her mind!"*

Paul Hinkle
Webb, West Virginia

"Well, Jimmy and I see eye to eye on the parity question . . . now!"

Charlie, THE GREEN HAND

"How come you don't hire pretty teenagers to sit with me anymore?"

The National FUTURE FARMER *will pay $1 for each joke published on this page. Jokes should be submitted on post cards addressed to The National* FUTURE FARMER, *Box 29, Alexandria, Virginia. In case of duplication, payment will be made for the first one received. Contributions cannot be acknowledged or returned.*

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Once you've loaded manure with a new No. 45 Loader on a John Deere Power Steering Tractor, you'll never be satisfied with less. Tractor power not only takes over all *the work of loading—but of steering, too.*

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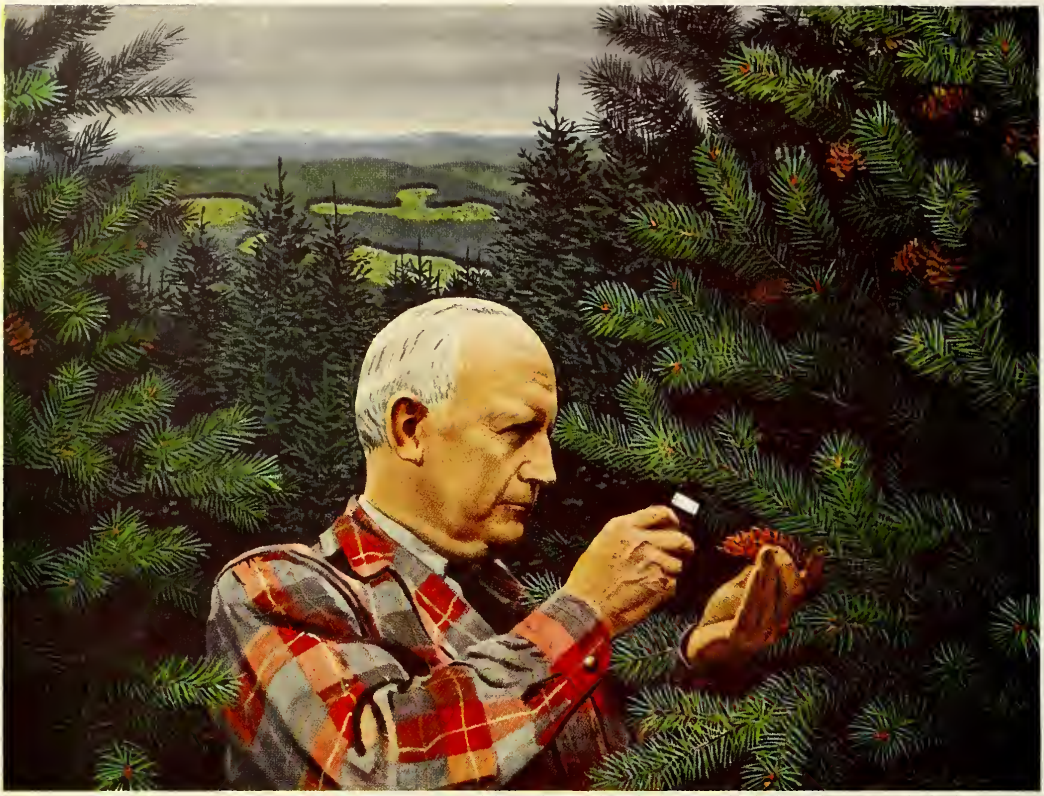

LEO A. ISAAC, research forester for U. S. Forest Service and world's leading authority on Douglas fir silviculture. The information developed through his 30 years of research at Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment station has been reported in more than 50 publications and now serves as a basic guide for the management of Douglas fir.

scientists of the forest help grow more wood for tomorrow...

Forestry research has resulted in growing assurance that tree farms can always produce wood for use in lumber, paper, rayon, chemicals, and about 4,000 other products.

To supply America's increasing demand for wood, the nation's forestlands must be kept productive by growing timber in repeated crops. Toward this end, forest scientists in industry and government are working together to acquire a more accurate knowledge of tree life through research. Typical of the men in this field is Leo A. Isaac, research forester and world-recognized authority on Douglas fir. His studies in seed distribution, natural reforestation and harvesting methods have helped establish basic forest management practices used in the Douglas fir region.

Today, forestry research programs are concerned with improving both the quality and quantity of future timber crops. The effect of seed selection, forest soil, pruning and thinning upon tree growth is under concentrated study. As a result of these experiments, America's 8,086 private owners of industrial tree farms will be able to grow *more* wood per acre for the forest products of tomorrow.

Weyerhaeuser Timber Company maintains a large forestry research staff to develop methods used in managing its forestlands as tree farms. *For free literature on tree farming, write us at Box C, Tacoma, Washington.*

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